



*Ministry  
of the Arts*  
2025 Calendar

# ON THE COVER

*Sunflowers and the Blue Jay*  
by Anne Camozzi





In support of Pope Francis, the Vatican’s Dicastery for Integral Human Development, and the launch of the Laudato Si’ Action Platform, this year’s calendar explores art and creativity reflective of the 7 Goals of Laudato Si’. The art in this calendar provides images that are alive with passion and the call of Laudato Si’. Ministry of the Arts and the Congregation of St. Joseph encourage and affirm creativity in one another, as our shared mission of unity compels us to a deep awareness of our communion with God and all creation. Through the arts, we express the unity and holiness of all creation and the depths of the human heart that can be revealed in response to the great mysteries of existence. We affirm the power of the arts to be a ministry that brings hope and healing to our world in this critical time of transformation.



Ministry of the Arts 2025 Calendar.  
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Biblical citations from the New Revised Standard Version. Laudato Si’ references from Pope Francis’ encyclical letter.

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 Contact information can be found on the “Meet the Artists” page at the back of this calendar.



*Song from the Shadows*  
by Sister Mary Southard, CSJ



# JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 "Pray and act for peace in solidarity with the neighbors around you and in the world. Always act from a stand of gratitude, for God has done great things in us and for us." - Ily Fernandez, CSJ New Years Day World Day of Peace</p>	<p>2 Human Trafficking could be happening where you work, socialize, or vacation. <b>Human Trafficking Hotline 888-373-7888</b>  Human Trafficking Awareness Month</p>	<p>3 "Together we can create a world where exploitation is eliminated, and every person can live free with security, dignity and respect." - Alliance to End Human Trafficking</p>	<p>4 As for you, return to your God, hold fast to love and justice, and wait continually for your God.. Hosea 12:6</p>
<p>5 "When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace." - Jimi Hendrix</p>	<p>6 "As we celebrate the Epiphany, let us pray that we, and our Church, will make room for ALL people at our table." - Jeanne Cmolik, CSJ  Feast of the Epiphany</p>	<p>7 Gracious and Loving Holy One, You breathe your breath of life into every person. This breath gives us the ability to look out at our world with a different set of eyes," the eyes of the soul and heart.</p>	<p>8 All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. For all must carry their own loads. Gal 6:4-5</p>	<p>9 "With love in mind, you can't go wrong, For love it is that fosters peace, So sing it loud and sing it strong," - Richard Doiron</p>	<p>10 "Our good works have their roots in divine inspiration." - CSJ Maxim 57</p>	<p>11 Participate in Wear Blue Day to help raise awareness of human trafficking. Visit: <a href="https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign">DHS.gov/blue-campaign</a>  Human Trafficking Awareness Day</p>
<p>12 "Human trafficking is a hidden crime as victims rarely come forward to seek help because of language barriers, fear of the traffickers, and/or fear of law enforcement." - ICE</p>	<p>13 "Young trafficking victims are conditioned to believe that this lifestyle is normal. That is what they are supposed to do." - Kanda, Destiny Rescue Caseworker</p>	<p>14 "We call to you for all in our world who suffer the horrors of modern slavery; for all who dream of a better life in another place only to be trapped, tricked and traded..."</p>	<p>15 We call to you with our hearts in pain for all those who labour, forced and unseen, to make our everyday possessions." - Anonymous</p>	<p>16 "We need a winter in our lives, a time of rest, a time to stand still, a time to reacquaint ourselves with the faith in which we live." - Author Unknown</p>	<p>17 "God continues to create life through the presence of loving relationships. May we be, like God, a good friend this year." - Carol Crepeau, CSJ</p>	<p>18 "The flapping of the wings of a butterfly can be felt on the other side of the world." - Chinese proverb  Have you thought about how your smallest acts affect the world?</p>
<p>19 For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. Eph 2:14</p>	<p>20 "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." - MLK Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p>	<p>21 "We need to be awake, awake as possible, to take action on behalf of Love." - Pat Kozak, CSJ</p>	<p>22 "Life is full of beauty. Notice it. Notice the bumble bee, the small child, and the smiling faces. Smell the rain, and feel the wind." - Ashley Smith</p>	<p>23 There are many local organizations that reach out to the homeless. Contact one and find out how you can help.</p>	<p>24 "I'm taking a fresh look at the American Dream and who gets to live it and who doesn't." - Helen Prejean, CSJ</p>	<p>25 We continue to pray for an end to human trafficking. Today, we pray for those who suffer from a lack of healthcare, malnourishment, and substance abuse.</p>
<p>26 God of all growth, We ask you to bless all students in Catholic schools. May they use their gifts and talents to spread Your light and love throughout the earth.  Nat'l Catholic Schools Week</p>	<p>27 Christ the Teacher, We ask that You bless all those who guide us at school. May they lead us through Your example as a teacher, may they inspire us to follow Your way.</p>	<p>28 God of kinship, We ask that You help us see the sacredness of our connection to one another. Help us to see Christ in each other.</p>	<p>29 God of good will, We ask that You inspire each of us to follow Your will more closely, And for each of us to find the joy of our vocation.</p>	<p>30 Grant me, O Lord, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you.</p>	<p>31 The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it. Psalm 24:1</p>	



*Peaceful Heart*  
by Angela Chostner

# FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<p>Lord, help us acknowledge our history: What have we done to exclude, persecute, and silence? How have we been complicit? Forgive us for not being there, for not doing enough.</p> <p>- Sarah Signorino</p> <p>Black History Month</p>
<p>2</p> <p>"Giving up our lives in love, in service, and in gratitude without resentment is perhaps one of the core qualities that Jesus has demonstrated."</p> <p>- Ronald Rolheiser, OMI</p> <p>World Day for Consecrated Life</p>	<p>3</p> <p>"If I don't know my history, I don't know myself."</p> <p>- Anonymous</p>	<p>4</p> <p>You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your record?</p> <p>Psalms 56:8</p>	<p>5</p> <p>"Whenever I encounter young people, I let them know that I believe in their ability to help overcome racism and racial divide in our world. I always say, 'You're the generation that's going to get it right!'"</p> <p>- Juanita Shealey, CSJ</p>	<p>6</p> <p>"What the people want is simple: they want an America as good as its promise."</p> <p>- Barbara Jordan</p>	<p>7</p> <p>All of us can benefit from spending this month, and the rest of the year, learning about the many contributions that Black Americans have brought to their local and national communities.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Attend or host a prayer service to raise awareness about human trafficking.</p> <p>Int'l Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking</p>
<p>9</p> <p>As you get ready to watch the big game, consider saying a prayer for victims of human trafficking. Large sporting events, like the Super Bowl, often lead to an increase in trafficking.</p> <p>Super Bowl Sunday</p>	<p>10</p> <p>"Who am I, really? And once I discover that truth, how can I become brave enough to embrace it?"</p> <p>- Alicia Keys</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Take a walk today and listen for God's voice in the sounds that surround you.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>"The more deeply we feel our own life, the more we experience our interconnectedness with others. This kind of love is a force for change."</p> <p>- Oren Jay Sofer</p>	<p>13</p> <p>"For peace in the world, it takes a bonding together of God's people who believe in peace...of those who are willing to walk together and who are overlooking those idiosyncracies that have kept us apart."</p> <p>- Addie L. Wyatt</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.</p> <p>1 Cor 13:7-8</p> <p>Valentine's Day</p>	<p>15</p> <p>"Who can be good, if not made so by loving?"</p> <p>- St. Augustine</p>
<p>16</p> <p>"You don't know what's happening on the other side of the wall, because you don't want to know."</p> <p>- James Baldwin</p>	<p>17</p> <p>"Kindness is doing what you can, where you are, with what you have."</p> <p>- RAKtivist</p> <p>Random Acts of Kindness Day President's Day</p>	<p>18</p> <p>"Lord, harvest wisdom, peace, and love in all our relationships, large and small. Breathe non-violence into our world."</p> <p>- Janet Franklin, CSJ</p>	<p>19</p> <p>"Treat everyone with the same care as if you were meeting God."</p> <p>- CSJ Maxim 49</p>	<p>20</p> <p>May the One who began this great work in all of us, open our eyes and our ears, our minds and our hearts to hear God's voice and see God's face in all who cry out for love and justice.</p> <p>World Day of Social Justice</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Lord, we know that you can raise our vision above all barriers and give us wisdom and courage to make this a better world. Inspire each of us to work more faithfully for justice and dignity of life everywhere.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>"If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it."</p> <p>- Michael Jordan</p>
<p>23</p> <p>But if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.</p> <p>1 John 1:7</p>	<p>24</p> <p>God, help us to value diversity beyond variety. Help us value diversity with a vision for a progressive future that acknowledges our strength together.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Help us to see the power, creativity, ideas, and part that we all bring when we are all welcome to come to the table and taste and see that the Lord is good.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>"As you become more present in your own life, you will begin to enlighten others by your example."</p> <p>- Germany Kent</p> <p>National Set a Good Example Day</p>	<p>27</p> <p>"We all belong to God, not as a possession to be grasped, but as a partner in a loving union in which we become free and vibrantly alive."</p> <p>- Judy Cannato, CSJ Associate</p>	<p>28</p> <p>"We must never forget that Black History is American History. The achievements of African Americans have contributed to our nation's greatness."</p> <p>- Yvette Clarke</p>	





*Aerial Ballet of Peace Cranes*  
by Sandy Bot-Miller



# MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<p>"We need women who are so strong they can be gentle, so educated they can be humble, and so fierce they can be compassionate." - Kavita Ramdas Women's History Month</p>
<p>Thank you for being strong for one another, for lifting each other up instead of putting each other down. God, may women continue to be empowered, knowing the love you offer.</p> <p>2</p>	<p>"I raise up my voice - not so that I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard... We cannot all succeed when half of us are held back." - Malala Yousafzai</p> <p>3</p>	<p>"Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations." - Dr. Mae Jemison</p> <p>4</p>	<p>Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Psalms 51:10  Ash Wednesday</p> <p>5</p>	<p>Help us to be strong, courageous, caring, passionate and compassionate, whatever our age, race or circumstances.</p> <p>6</p>	<p>"God's vision for us is greater than what we ourselves might imagine, so place your trust in God's dream for you!" - Jessica Wroblecki, CSJ Associate</p> <p>7</p>	<p>That they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us. John 17:21  Catholic Sisters Week Int'l Women's Day</p> <p>8</p>
<p>"May I hear and act on the Cry of the Earth, and the Cry of the Poor this Lent." - Cynthia Sabathier, CSJ  1st Sunday of Lent</p> <p>9</p>	<p>Make a point of reaching out to someone who you know is struggling and remind them of God's love.</p> <p>10</p>	<p>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit. John 15:16</p> <p>11</p>	<p>"Hope would have us recognize there is always a way out, we can always redirect our steps, we can always do something to solve our problems." (LS 61)</p> <p>12</p>	<p>"I stop frequently throughout my day to talk to God and acknowledge God within me." - Becky Eldridge</p> <p>13</p>	<p>"Witness courageously that no one less than God has any power over you." - CSJ Maxim 54</p> <p>14</p>	<p>"Remember that I am just a woman who is living a very abundant life. Every step I take forward is on a path paved by strong Indian women before me." - Wilma Mankiller</p> <p>15</p>
<p>"Good and gracious God, open our minds and hearts to experience your love on both the mountain tops and valleys of life." - Kathy Brazda, CSJ 2nd Sunday of Lent</p> <p>16</p>	<p>Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort me and restore me. Saint Patrick's Day</p> <p>17</p>	<p>Don't Stop Recycling. Educate yourself on how to do it better.  Global Recycling Day</p> <p>18</p>	<p>"Holy One, let Joseph be my example. Let his life guide me to walk in a path of righteousness and compassion for all people in this world." - Barb Kupchak, CSJ St. Joseph Day</p> <p>19</p>	<p>"My journey has reached to the four corners of the earth, friendship was, and is, a way of visitation where we claim our freedom and celebrate our gifts." - Rita Marie Thissen, CSJ</p> <p>20</p>	<p>"Race doesn't really exist for you because it has never been a barrier. Black folks don't have that choice." - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie Int'l Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination</p> <p>21</p>	<p>"Water links us to our neighbor in a way more profound and complex than any other." - John Thorson World Water Day</p> <p>22</p>
<p>"Walk into your day with a chance once more to say, 'Everywhere I go, I walk in the heart of God.' - Joan Krebs 3rd Sunday of Lent</p> <p>23</p>	<p>"Do what your inner soul tells you to do, regardless of any money or success it will bring you." - Etel Adnan</p> <p>24</p>	<p>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Luke 1:38 Feast of the Annunciation</p> <p>25</p>	<p>"Being present and available are where my gifts are best used. Let us pray for one another as we say 'yes' to what God asks of each of us each day." - Connie Beiriger, CSJ</p> <p>26</p>	<p>"It can be done. We can welcome our sisters and brothers in Christ and assist them in their hope for a better life." - Laurina Kahne, CSJ</p> <p>27</p>	<p>Find a place away from the ordinary, where there is time and space to deepen your relationship with God, Earth, self and one another.</p> <p>28</p>	<p>Let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Eph 4:25</p> <p>29</p>
<p>"Today let me be more like God who judges, not by external appearance, but by what God sees in the heart." - Lucy Silvio, CSJ 4th Sunday of Lent</p> <p>30</p>	<p>God, equip us for the building of a world where all women are supported, celebrated and welcomed.</p> <p>31</p>					





*Looking to  
Each Other*  
by Susan Cohen  
Thompson



# APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 As we commemorate the Fair Housing Act, may we be thankful for all of the ways it has helped in banning discrimination that is based on race, religion, gender, and family status. Nat'l Fair Housing Month	2 "I pray that we may grow in our understanding of the nature of all living beings and our connectedness with the natural world." - Jane Goodall	3 "The humble man takes whatever there is in the world that helps him to find God and leaves the rest aside." - Thomas Merton, OSCO	4 "I contemplate what our lives would be like if we learned habits of being that would bring us closer together, that would help us build beloved community." - Bell Hooks	5 Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. John 12:24
6 "Lord Jesus, be with me as I abandon myself to you in this new day. Be with me as I try to be attentive to your invitations into new ways of living and loving." - Mary Clark, CSJ 5th Sunday of Lent	7 "Earth will transmit to you her solidity, her peace, and her joy. With your mindful breathing, with your peaceful smile." - Thich Nhat Hanh	8 "A deeper capacity of wonder which takes us to a deeper understanding of life." - LS 225	9 "I thank You God for this most amazing day, for the leaping greenly spirits of trees and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything which is natural, which is infinite, which is yes." - E.E. Cummings	10 "As long as we relate to the trees, the rivers, the mountains... as properties which we can manipulate according to our real or fabricated needs, nature does not reveal to us its true being." - Henri J.M. Nouwen	11 "When I fail to remember who I am and who I'm supposed to be, I ask for your grace and mercy to reconcile myself to you and my dear neighbor." - Jim Boyd, CSJ Associate	12 One way for us to understand our lives is to look at them through the great experiences that happen during Holy Week.
13 The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Isaiah 50:4  Palm Sunday	14 Give a warm welcome to people moving into your community who belong to a different background, race, or color.	15 Lord, Help us turn from the selfish consumption of resources meant for all and to see the impacts of our choices on the poor and vulnerable.	16 Spring is planting time. Find out which plants to grow in your area to benefit pollinators.	17 "May I see Jesus in the face of each person I meet today." - Angela Faustina, CSJ Carondelet  Holy Thursday	18 "We are waiting in the agony of this Good Friday to be transformed once again by Grace, Love, and Hope." - Janet Franklin, CSJ  Good Friday	19 "Teach me, loving God, open my eyes and my heart to the Resurrection moments that happen every day in my life. Beauty and love surround me on all sides." - Marianne Race, CSJ  Holy Saturday
20 "Pause and reflect on the gift of rising with Christ and all that means for me, for us, and for all of creation." - Betsy Meagher CSJ  Easter	21 "When it is tough to believe, hold fast to wanting to believe." - CSJ Maxim 29	22 "There is something infinitely healing... in the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after the winter. In nature, nothing exists alone." - Rachel Carson Earth Day	23 "A pebble cast into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. Each one of our thoughts, words and deeds is like that." - Dorothy Day	24 "God continues to call me to 'the more' so, I continue to say 'yes' and thank God for the gift of wisdom and gratitude I receive from those I serve." - Rita Schafer, CSJ	25 Learn more about housing discrimination in your community or country.	26 To help save monarch butterflies, planting milkweed in your landscape is a must! Learn more and order milkweed seeds here:  SaveOurMonarchs.org
27 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy. Psalm 96:11-12	28 "She told them that the only grace they could have was the grace they could imagine. That if they could not see it, they would not have it." - Toni Morrison	29 "The Holy Spirit is always present and active. It is up to us to catch the movement of the Spirit, taking the risk to consciously move along with it." - Maria Hill, CSJ	30 "Let's treat food with respect and not waste it." - Massimo Bottura  Stop Food Waste Day			



*Breathe In the Silence*  
by Sister Frankie Dutil, CSJ



# MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 "God, may we each be attentive to your call and renewed in our commitment to 'assist and serve others with the same love and care that Joseph had in serving Jesus and Mary.'" - Sallie Latkovich, CSJ Saint Joseph the Worker Day	2 "Without reflection, we go blindly on our way, creating more unintended consequences, and failing to achieve anything useful" - Margaret Wheatley	3 "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how." Mark 4:26-27
4 Let us be seeds of hope in our lives and our world, rooted in faith and love.	5 "Walk with me, will you walk with me down the path, toward a place, where together and forever, we will live in peace!" - Kathy Sherman, CSJ	6 Ask yourself, "Who is my dear neighbor?" What makes our neighbor dear? What mannerisms and behaviors make our serving the neighbor "care-full" and "loving"?	7 "We naturally surround ourselves with people who think and look like us. We need to challenge ourselves to walk in the shoes of those whose life circumstances are far different than ours." - Jeannie Masterson, CSJ	8 "To weep with those who suffer does not mean that we have a good cry and get on with other things. It is more that we have a good cry and we are never the same." - Jan Johnson	9 "Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light" - LS 246	10 "When you ask a question, I bring my mind, you bring your mind, and we solve problems together." - Mary Koomson World Fair Trade Day
11 Bless all mothers, that their love may be deep and tender, and that they may lead their children to know and do what is good, living not for themselves alone, but for God and for others. Mother's Day	12 "God's holy Love is always at work in us. We never arrive but are always a work in progress." - CSJ Maxim 92	13 "If we pay attention, many things can change us for the better. In fact, all of life can be transformative if we are open and attentive." - Jeanne Cmolik, CSJ	14 His disciples came to him "send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat." But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." Mark 6:36-37	15 Kindness is a soothing balm for the soul, giving an inner light to everyone who is touched. It is up to each of us to allow that light to shine.	16 "If we humans truly are to realize more of our God given potential, our goal needs to be the common good." - Pam Young, CSJ	17 Take an inventory of everything you own. Then ask yourself: Is it useful? Does it bring me joy? Does someone else need it more than I do?
18 "When you see a new trail, or a footprint you do not know, follow it to the point of knowing." - Uncheedah, Grandmother of Ohiyesa	19 Integral Ecology is a lens of understanding which honors the interconnectedness of our daily life. Laudato Si' Week	20 "Our call is to continue to be bold and creative in living greater ecological conversion and more environmentally sustainable lives." - Lucy Silvio, CSJ	21 "The Love that I seek is always seeking me. But Laudato Si' challenges me to deepen how I hear this re-union call." - Judith Minear, CSJ	22 "Amid the variety of our charisms, we are called to listen to one another and to journey together... to discern where the Spirit is leading us for the benefit of all." - Pope Francis	23 "May we be moved out of our complacency and towards a more just and peaceful world." - Kathy Brazda, CSJ	24 "Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live." - LS 139
25 Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me. Matthew 25:45	26 "Because I knew you, I have been changed for the better, I have been changed for good." - Stephen Schwartz Memorial Day	27 "We suffer from spatial blindness. We see our part of the system but not the whole; We see what is happening with us but not what is happening elsewhere..."	28 "...We don't see how our world impacts theirs and how theirs impacts ours; We don't see how all the parts influence one another." - Barry Ushry	29 "The ground's generosity takes in our compost and grows beauty. Try to be more like the ground." - Rumi Learn About Composting Day	30 "I'm learning to depend on God and what God provides, and less on what I think I need." - Anonymous	31 "Sages never try to store things up. The more they do for others, the more they have. The more they give to others, the greater their abundance." - Lao Tzu



*Garden Gate*  
by Sister Marie Benzing, CSJ



# JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>We pray for unity, for tenderness, for belonging, justice and freedom, for solidarity and bountiful compassion, that the world may know who you are by the way we love one another.</p> <p>LGBTQ+ Pride Month</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you.</p> <p>Isaiah 43:4</p>	<p>3</p> <p>"Even if it makes others uncomfortable, I will love who I am."</p> <p>- Janelle Monáe</p>	<p>4</p> <p>"Jesus saw all people as one with him, made in God's image, to be revered and respected, and he told us that the world's poor and vulnerable ones were especially dear to God's heart."</p> <p>- Mary Ellen Loch, CSJ</p>	<p>5</p> <p>"I'm thinking about oak trees and galaxies the prodigality of those who do not grasp their wealth in closed fists, who shed stars and acorns freely giving light and sustenance without hesitation."</p> <p>- Christine Parks, CSJ</p> <p>World Environment Day</p>	<p>6</p> <p>God, our hearts are broken by gun violence. We ask that you touch our hearts with your love, heal our brokenness, and turn us away from violence toward peace.</p> <p>Nat'l Gun Violence Awareness Day</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Help us to transform our own hearts and to seek peaceful ways of resolving our differences. Let our hands reach out and connect with those who feel alone. Those who live in fear.</p> <p>Wear Orange Weekend</p>
<p>8</p> <p>"Listen deeply to subtle nudges of the Holy Spirit; then act on them."</p> <p>- CSJ Maxim 15</p> <p>Pentecost</p>	<p>9</p> <p>"We all know people who 'give it all away', who let God's abundance and compassion flow through them. What keeps me from receiving the abundance God desires for me and letting it flow freely?"</p> <p>- Cynthia Sabathier, CSJ</p>	<p>10</p> <p>He has made everything suitable in its time.</p> <p>Ecclesiastes 3:11</p>	<p>11</p> <p>"It is impossible to experience a person's life, or to be compassionate, if you do not listen to the person or if you do not ask questions."</p> <p>- James Martin, SJ</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Because their parents are poor, children must work; therefore remain out of school. As a consequence, these children grow up to be poor as adults, and the cycle continues.</p> <p>World Day Against Child Labor</p>	<p>13</p> <p>"Your beliefs should never leave you ashamed of who you are naturally. The way you were made is perfect and good."</p> <p>- The Proud Trust</p>	<p>14</p> <p>"How does this Great Love to which we are all connected, call to you? Every response will be different, but a response is invited from each, for all."</p> <p>- Jeanne Masterson, CSJ</p>
<p>15</p> <p>When our fathers are tired, overwhelmed, or feeling weak, Lord give them the strength to continue loving and working. Lord, give them the courage to stand strong.</p> <p>Father's Day</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Take a moment to consider an action, decision, or process in your day: Where are connections? With others, creation, the Holy? What is one change I will make to improve or create connection?</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?"</p> <p>John 9:40</p>	<p>18</p> <p>"We can find ourselves blinded by political ideologies, blinded by pride, blinded by familiarity, blinded by greed, blinded by race or culture or language."</p> <p>- Janice Grochowsky, CSJ</p>	<p>19</p> <p>"If the cruelties of slavery could not stop us, the opposition we now face will surely fail. Because the goal of America is freedom, ...our destiny is tied up with America's destiny."</p> <p>- Martin Luther King, Jr.</p> <p>Juneteenth</p>	<p>20</p> <p>We entrust to you all those who are leaving their homelands, enduring fear, uncertainty, and humiliation, in order to reach a place of safety and hope.</p> <p>World Refugee Day</p>	<p>21</p> <p>"Prayer gradually changes our face into the face of God, our presence into the presence of God's love."</p> <p>- Marcella Clancy, CSJ</p>
<p>22</p> <p>"I looked at humanity, at all those created an image of God, and there were none that looked like me or loved like me. There was nothing in creation that mirrored me..."</p>	<p>23</p> <p>When I could see myself as that original human being and felt God blowing life into me as I was Black, gay and faithful, I was, at last, truly part of God's creation."</p> <p>- Rev. Bryan Massingale</p>	<p>24</p> <p>We pray, O God, for the wounds the world inflicts, in thought, word, and deed, against what your hands have made and ultimately, against you. Your limitless love restores us all.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>"There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions, and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle."</p> <p>- LS 211</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Give us the vision and the courage to risk what makes us comfortable; trusting that, in doing so, we can birth a world of justice and peace.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>"Support us in our work and help us extend our mission in whatever capacity you can. It can be as simple as a kind look, smile or thought toward those who call out for inclusion."</p> <p>- Barb Szulc, CSJ Associate</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.</p> <p>Romans 12:2</p>
<p>29</p> <p>"The important thing is not to spend our lives trying to control the environment around us. The task is to control the environment within us."</p> <p>- Joan D. Chittister, OSB</p>	<p>30</p> <p>"May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears."</p> <p>- Nelson Mandela</p>					





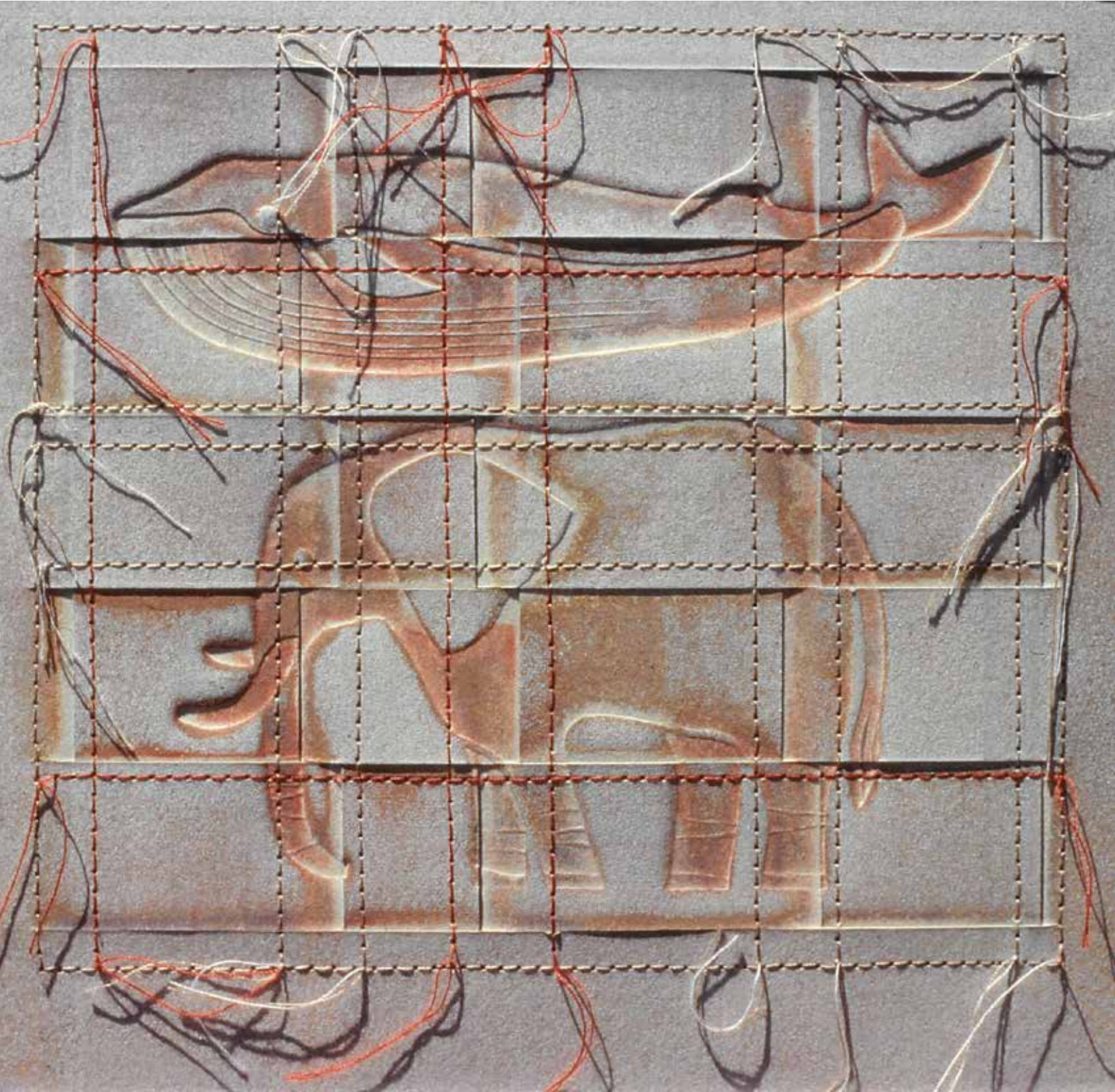
*Aspens*  
by Betsy Kinnick



# JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1 Holy God, we pray for all the communities and people affected by plastic pollution, that you may keep them close to you. Help us to restore and care for this beautiful earth you blessed us with.</p> <p>Plastic Free Month</p>	<p>2 The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself.</p> <p>Leviticus 19:34</p>	<p>3 "The need is great. And when poor and vulnerable people ask, 'How much do you love me?' We roll up our sleeves, stretch out our arms and say, 'this much and more.'"</p> <p>- Mary Ellen Loch, CSJ</p>	<p>4 God, source of all freedom, make our vision clear and our will strong: that only in human solidarity will we find the liberty, and justice that belongs to every life on earth.</p> <p>Independence Day</p>	<p>5 Travel sustainably: Refuse miniature bottles in hotel rooms, take your own reusable drinking bottle and use reef-safe sunscreen, without microplastics.</p>
<p>6 In your prayer today, ask to notice what attitude of yours needs changing to create a better future. Pray for the gift to change it.</p>	<p>7 "Empathy is simply listening, holding space, withholding judgment, emotionally connecting, and communicating that incredibly healing message of your're not alone."</p> <p>- Brené Brown</p>	<p>8 "Treat yourself like a butterfly: Let your true colors show, Take yourself lightly, Look for the sweetness in life, Take time to smell the flowers, Catch a breeze, Treat yourself like a Monarch."</p> <p>- Ilan Shamir</p>	<p>9 "We are called to take concrete measures to overcome the misunderstanding, ignorance, competition, and fear that stand in the way of genuinely welcoming the stranger in our midst."</p> <p>- U.S. Catholic Bishops</p>	<p>10 "Someday, we shall harness for God the energies of love, and then, for a second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire."</p> <p>- Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ</p>	<p>11 "Jesus is Light for those in darkness, hope for those who search, peace for those who hurt. Now it's our turn to bring these gifts to others...do we?"</p> <p>- Frankie Dutil, CSJ</p>	<p>12 Shop sustainably. Choose food with no plastic packaging, carry a reusable bag, buy local products, and refill containers to reduce your plastic waste and effect on the environment.</p>
<p>13 Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy."</p> <p>Jeremiah 1:6</p> <p>If you had the same conversation with God, what would your response be?</p>	<p>14 "Work for peace is like that - slowly pushing back the fear, the terrible threat of violence, the reality of social injustice to make room for life."</p> <p>- Marie Dennis</p>	<p>15 Spend some time outdoors enjoying nature, watching the butterflies and pollinators do their work.</p>	<p>16 "Freedom: to remember God, to see God in all things, to choose God's will."</p> <p>- CSJ Maxim 93</p>	<p>17 "The truth is that all creation is Holy; all life is consecrated; all life is already one with God. Our task is to wake ourselves to this truth"</p> <p>- Christine Parks, CSJ</p>	<p>18 "A person is limited only by the thoughts that he chooses."</p> <p>- James Allen</p>	<p>19 Become a zero-waste champion. Invest in sustainable, clean-friendly products: reusable coffee mugs, water bottles and food wraps.</p>
<p>20 Lord God, we ask you today to light up the darkness of a broken immigration system. Help us to open our hands, releasing our pre-suppositions and let your compassion and wisdom lead us to a better future.</p>	<p>21 I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.</p> <p>John 10:10</p>	<p>22 "The kingdom, it can't be built through conflict. Not by opposition, not by destruction. It grows with us, with every act of love and care, with our forgiveness."</p> <p>- St. Mary Magdalene</p> <p>The Feast Day of St. Mary Magdalene</p>	<p>23 "Each evening before going to bed, I will take a few minutes to reflect on how I have shared comfort and hope with others throughout the day."</p> <p>- Judith Minear, CSJ</p>	<p>24 When weeding your gardens and yards, remember that honey bees and wild bees depend heavily on such "weeds" as goldenrod, mustard, and dandelions for pollen that serves as the food for their young.</p>	<p>25 "A culture focused on individual freedom can only result in narcissism, polarization, conflict, estrangement, and loneliness. What is the meaning of life when it's all about me?"</p> <p>- Margaret J. Wheatley</p>	<p>26 Dress sustainably. Consider sustainable clothing lines, vintage shops and repair your clothes when possible.</p>
<p>27 "We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty."</p> <p>- Maya Angelou</p>	<p>28 "I dream a world where divisions are ended and songs ring out with sounds of healing."</p> <p>- Kathy Sherman, CSJ</p>	<p>29 "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness."</p> <p>2 Corinthians 12:9</p>	<p>30 "The work of raising awareness must begin at home, with ourselves, because only in this way will we be able to then make our communities aware."</p> <p>- Pope Francis</p> <p>World Day against Trafficking in Persons</p>	<p>31 "A man is a free being who is always changing into himself. This changing is never merely indifferent. We are always getting either better or worse."</p> <p>- Thomas Merton, OSCO</p>		





*Ghost Weaving*  
by Sister Marion Honors, CSJ



# AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye." - Antoine de Saint-Exupery	2 "The wisest people I know are life-long learners who are aware of how their gifts and talents can be used to make a difference in world." - Jean McGrath, CSJ
3 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. Proverbs 9:10	4 "The effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them" - LS 217	5 In an age where time is at a premium because of our busy lives, volunteering is a priceless gift.	6 "We celebrate our CSJ refounding with the Feast of the Transfiguration. We are down the mountain and onto a new road." - Janet Franklin, CSJ Feast of the Transfiguration	7 "For all of us called to discipleship and service... the call is always the same: to choose life." - Eleanor Bernstein, CSJ	8 Ask yourself, how is what I do a way of choosing life for them?	9 "Can we challenge ourselves to use more colors than black and white to describe our sense of what's right and wrong?" - Pat Kozak, CSJ
10 "It is certain that the love of God does not consist in experiencing tenderness of heart but in truly serving God in justice, strength and humility." - Teresa of Avila	11 "Every time we go to Nicaragua, we have to remember that the reason for going is not to 'do' something, It's about standing in solidarity with people we now call our friends." - Teri Holman	12 God, we pray for you to guide and protect young people from the dangers that are ever present. Give to them the courage and strength to make the right decisions. Int'l Youth Day	13 "Before I can tell my life what I want to do with it, I must listen to my life telling me who I am." - Parker Palmer	14 Find a way to connect regularly (perhaps once a month) with people who may be in vulnerable situations.	15 "Live detached from others' opinions of you. Rejoice in the gifts of others." - CSJ Maxim 75	16 The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Psalm 145:8
17 "In neglecting to first embrace our own weakness before addressing the weakness of others, we lose the value of reciprocity that Jesus modeled so profoundly." - Shannon K. Evans	18 As we move into this school year, fill us with hope and abiding trust that you dwell in us, so that, in both joy and sorrow, we radiate hope.	19 "Life is not meant to be a burden. Life is not a problem to be solved. It is a blessing to be celebrated." - Joan Chittister, OSB	20 For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29:11	21 "Education must be about encouraging every child to dream and never be afraid." - Jeanne Cmolik, CSJ	22 The challenge is to acknowledge the power each of us has and to use it to make things right in the lives of those we encounter...	23 ...whether in our daily lives or in how we allow the stories of our neighbors around the globe to become part of us.
24 Consider taking contemplative walks, alone or with others, in a natural setting, listening with the eyes of your heart as well as your head.	25 "That is what learning is. You suddenly understand something you have understood all your life, but in a new way." - Doris Lessing	26 Help us to see and to face the discrimination against women in all the many forms it may take. Women's Equality Day	27 "Teach me your ways, O God, give me a kind heart ready to show mercy and care for your people and all your creation." - Marianne Race, CSJ	28 For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength. 1 Corinthians 1:25	29 Commit yourself to learning about a culture, a life situation, or a population you've never met to expand your awareness of the oneness of all creation.	30 "I have learned to seek first to understand and then to be understood." - Bridget Curran, Leadership through Ministry Intern
31 "Look for glimpses of God around you daily. Seek to reveal God's love in your choices and actions." - Bernadette Dean, CSJ						





*Finding Light in the Darkness*  
by Sister Carrie Vall, CSJ



# SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1 "God of promise and possibility may I realize that there is much yet to be done in a world in need of hope and healing..."</p> <p>Labor Day Season of Creation</p>	<p>2 May I be encouraged by your example and try to do my part to live as you lived, always attentive and willing to respond to the needs of others." - Jean McGrath, CSJ</p>	<p>3 For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. Galatians 5:13</p>	<p>4 "May we be so present to your life within us that we become a force of healing and an outpouring of love for our aching world and suffering planet." - Bridget Sperduto, CSJ Associate</p>	<p>5 "The actions people in hard-hit regions are taking every day to overcome the burdens of the climate crisis are just as vital as widespread solutions..."</p>	<p>6 The steps we take now as a global community, including supporting those on the front lines who are braving the challenge, will determine our resilience for the future." - Mercy Corps</p>
<p>7 "Be careful of the temptation to need more and more. Be careful not to stand on a pinnacle and judge others. Instead take time to feed those who are in need. Be bread to others." - Frankie Dutil, CSJ</p>	<p>8 Watch (or re-watch) <i>Laudato Si' The Letter: A Message for Our Earth.</i> TheLetterFilm.org</p>	<p>9 Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. Psalm 85:10-11</p>	<p>10 God of hope and healing, may your Rivers of Righteousness wash away our apathy, our greed, and our selfishness and reveal the deep relationships You created for us with all creation.</p>	<p>11 Be near to all those who have been touched by violence: those who have been hurt, lost their loved ones or lost their sense of security. Be for them a steady comfort and safe resting place. Anniversary of 9/11</p>	<p>12 Plant native plants in your yard and leave the native plants standing through the winter so that the seed heads provide food for birds and other wildlife.</p>	<p>13 "Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience." - LS 217</p>
<p>14 The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Psalm 19:1</p>	<p>15 "Creation is a marvelous gift that God has given to us, so that we will take care of it and harness it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude." - Pope Francis</p>	<p>16 Every ecological success is a resurrection story! Find out which animals, plants, or ecosystems are being revived in your area. Then, find out what you can do to help.</p>	<p>17 "Hiking instilled in us, from an early age, a wonder and respect for nature... Being in nature calms me, I feel a deep sense of everything being connected." - Theresa Hafner, CSJ</p>	<p>18 Today, consider your own water usage, and think of how you can talk to others about theirs. World Water Monitoring Day</p>	<p>19 "Eco-spirituality is about helping people experience 'the holy' in the natural world and to recognize their relationship as human beings to all creation." - Virginia Jones, CSJ</p>	<p>20 "Hope is an active verb. You don't have hope if you just stand on the sidelines. Hope springs through us, when we begin to act and are engaged." - Helen Prejean, CSJ</p>
<p>21 "Peace involves not only the absence of conflict but positive, life-giving relationships with God, ourselves, our human neighbors, and all creation." - Season of Creation Guide Int'l Day of Peace</p>	<p>22 "Let us rise up, then, and set out as pilgrims of hope, so that, as Mary was for Elizabeth, we too can be messengers of joy, sources of new life and artisans of fraternity and peace." - Pope Francis</p>	<p>23 "Active Hope is not wishful thinking. Active Hope is not waiting to be rescued by some savior. Active Hope is waking up to the beauty of life on whose behalf we can act." - Johanna Macy</p>	<p>24 "Intergenerational solidarity is not optional, but rather a basic question of justice, since the world we have received also belongs to those who will follow us." - LS 159</p>	<p>25 "In living your life, have one desire only: to be what God longs for you to be." - CSJ Maxim 73</p>	<p>26 But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Job 12:7-8</p>	<p>27 Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being. Job 12:9-10</p>
<p>28 Creator God, Inspire us to recognize that the choices we make impact the environment and our human family around the globe... World Rivers Day</p>	<p>29 Grace us with the ability to live simply, sustainably and with reverence for Earth, God of grace and love, we bring our prayer, our commitment, our gifts to you this day...</p>	<p>30 Let us, with our strong dedication and awareness of your creation and all that it offers, join with others to contribute to the sustainability of Earth.</p>				



*Autumn Path*  
by Sister Pat Willems,  
CSJ



# OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 Maker of all, awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life.</p> <p>Respect Life Month</p>	<p>2 "What will it take for me to become fully awake? The kind of awake that practices generous gratitude. The kind of awake that takes heart, not a hike, when life is in any way diminished."</p> <p>- Barbara Dreher, CSJ</p>	<p>3 "Is it right for people to critique others for their supposed un-Christian attitudes by themselves being un-Christian?"</p> <p>- James Martin, SJ</p>	<p>4 "Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take nothing that you have received... but only what you have given; a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice, and courage."</p> <p>- St. Francis of Assisi</p>
<p>5 "Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy. What we are asked to do is to love, and this love itself will render both ourselves and our neighbors worthy."</p> <p>- Thomas Merton, OSCO</p>	<p>6 "If you are going to do something for the poor, the abused, or the imprisoned, above all be faithful. People with broken lives often come from lives with broken promises."</p> <p>- Helen Prejean, CSJ</p>	<p>7 Hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.</p> <p>Romans 5:5</p>	<p>8 "The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and realities of the universe about us, the less taste we shall have for destruction."</p> <p>- Rachel Carson</p>	<p>9 God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.</p>	<p>10 "Why is his incarceration not punishment enough? Must this revenge also hurt everyone that he loves?"</p> <p>- Krystia Ramirez</p> <p>World Day Against the Death Penalty</p>	<p>11 "We all belong in the heart of God. Everyone belongs, for we journey together and we are who we are by virtue of our belonging to one another."</p> <p>- Judy Cannato, CSJ Associate</p>
<p>12 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.</p> <p>Psalms 139:13-14</p>	<p>13 "The Earth does not expect you to save her, she expects you to respect her. And we, as Indigenous peoples, expect the same."</p> <p>- Nemonte Nenquimo</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples' Day</p>	<p>14 "The sun does not forget a village just because it is small."</p> <p>- African Proverb</p>	<p>15 Join us in celebration of our Founders Day! Sisters, associates, and friends are taking part in Service Days across the congregation this week!</p> <p>CSJ Founder's Day</p>	<p>16 "Perhaps that's what all human relationships boil down to: Would you save my life, or would you take it?"</p> <p>- Toni Morrison</p>	<p>17 "The friend of nature is the man who feels himself inwardly united with everything that lives in nature, who shares in the fate of all creatures."</p> <p>- Albert Schweitzer</p>	<p>18 "How often have we looked at a situation, or even a person, as hopeless, without asking the question 'Why is this so?' or taking the time to consider what is behind what we see or feel?"</p> <p>- Jim Boyd, CSJ Associate</p>
<p>19 Lord, we ask you to help us to understand the value of all human life, from the unborn to the elderly, the strong to the weak, the rich to the poor, and those with disabilities.</p>	<p>20 Help us to speak out when someone is not being respected, especially those who cannot speak for themselves.</p>	<p>21 "Desire to embrace the whole world with the fire of God's great dream."</p> <p>- CSJ Maxim 7</p>	<p>22 "To see with Sacred Eyes is to 'borrow' the Beloved's eyes, is to behold the face of God in each person, each moment, each being."</p> <p>- Mary Southard, CSJ</p>	<p>23 "When my vision is blurred or focused on the mundane, I may not recognize the neighbor. But, if I look with 'Sacred Eyes', I see what might not be immediately apparent."</p> <p>- Karen Salsbery, CSJ</p>	<p>24 "We know that unless we believe, and more importantly act as though, all are worthy of respect, dignity, and compassion, we will contribute to maintaining the status quo."</p> <p>- Barb Szulc, CSJ Associate</p>	<p>25 Lord, I do want to be used by You. I want to be salt and light. I want to make a difference in this world. I give myself to You and Your service. Jesus, I trust in You.</p> <p>Make a Difference Day</p>
<p>26 "Humans are vulnerable and rely on the kindnesses of the earth and the sun; we exist together in a sacred field of meaning."</p> <p>- Joy Harjo</p>	<p>27 "We're talking about the good news of the gospel: Life is better than death; compassion is better than vengeance."</p> <p>- Helen Prejean, CSJ</p>	<p>28 Next Tuesday is Election Day. Have you made a plan to vote?</p>	<p>29 Ah Lord God! It is you who made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.</p> <p>Jeremiah 32:17</p>	<p>30 "I know now that true charity consists in bearing all our neighbours' defects, not being surprised at their weakness, but edified at their smallest virtues."</p> <p>- St. Therese de Lisieux</p>	<p>31 "Authentic human development has a moral character. It presumes full respect for the human person, but it must also be concerned for the world around us."</p> <p>- LS 5</p> <p>Halloween</p>	



*Unto the Seventh  
Generation*  
by Marie Spaeder Haas



# NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; ...and give you peace.</p> <p>Numbers 6:24-26 All Saints Day</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>"Vocation does not come from a voice 'out there' calling me to be something I am not...."</p> <p>All Souls Day National Vocation Awareness Week</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>It comes from a voice 'in here' calling me to be the person I was born to be."</p> <p>- Thomas Merton, OCSO</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>Let us pray for our nation in this time of election and transition, may we be gifted with a spirit of reverence for what is right and concern for the common good.</p> <p>Election Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>O God, send Your Graces upon those You have called to gather the fruits of Your labor; preserve and strengthen them in their lifelong service of you.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>Lord, I know you love me and have great plans for me. Show me how to walk forward one day at a time and respond with openness to whatever you call me to be.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>"For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy."</p> <p>- St. Therese of Lisieux</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>"Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"</p> <p>Luke 24:32</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>We lift our prayer of gratitude for we are awed by the beauty of the earth, the mountains and valleys, the sun and the moon - we give you praise.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>"Be at peace with your path. Embrace change when the Spirit prompts."</p> <p>- CSJ Maxim 62</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>Help us to see your face in every Veteran we encounter. Guide us as we imagine new ways to support Veterans and their families.</p> <p>Veteran's Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>"The changing of the seasons, life is born anew.... The hope that we cling to when the darkness comes; All is gift, from a loving God."</p> <p>- Kathy Sherman, CSJ</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>"Imagine a circle of compassion and no one is standing outside of it."</p> <p>- Gregory Boyle, SJ</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>"Eating what you have grown completes a cycle from seed to table... In this busy world we rarely have opportunities to meet our physical needs so directly."</p> <p>- Pam Peirce</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>"The real survivors are the Earth inhabitants that have lived millions of years without consuming their ecological capital."</p> <p>- Janine M. Benyus</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>Always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God.</p> <p>1 Thess. 5:15-18</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>"I begin to understand, as never before, that holiness is made of dailiness, of living life as it comes to me, not as I insist it be."</p> <p>- Joan Chittister, OSB</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>"My hope is that you will find the joy that has always been waiting for you... and embracing gratitude as a means of finding joy."</p> <p>- Donald Altman</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>"My soul rejoices in God my Savior. How do I rejoice, embracing gratitude as a means of finding joy?"</p> <p>- Lucy Silvio, CSJ</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>When you're blessed with a hefty bounty, consider giving away some of your excess goods. Put together little produce bundles to give to your friends, family, coworkers or neighbors.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>"We do not believe that we 'grow' our lives, we believe that we 'make' them. Just listen to how we use the word in everyday speech..."</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>We make time, make friends, make meaning, make money, make a living, make love."</p> <p>- Parker Palmer</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>"The most environmentally friendly product is the one you didn't buy."</p> <p>- Joshua Becker</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>"Let us go rejoicing to the house of God! Because of the gifts of life I say, peace be with you, within your home, within your city and within all Peoples."</p> <p>- Betsy Meagher, CSJ</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>"The greatest gift one can give is thanksgiving. In giving gifts, we give what we can spare, but in giving thanks we give ourselves."</p> <p>- David Steindl-Rast, OSB</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>"When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost, count your many blessings, name them one by one, And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done."</p> <p>- Johnson Oatman, Jr.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>May these gifts of Earth and work of human hands be treasured by those who receive the harvest and shared generously with those who hunger.</p> <p>Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>You shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.</p> <p>Isaiah 55:12</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>"It is time to lower our voices, to resist the impulse to control, to command, to force, to oppress; and to begin to follow the guidance of the larger community."</p> <p>- Thomas Berry, CP</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>"Wake Up! It's time to begin the liturgical year once again. It is time for new energy and new intent in our living."</p> <p>- Sallie Latkovitch, CSJ 1st Sunday Advent Cities for Life Day</p>						



*Mittens*  
by Sister Richard Mehren, CSJ



# DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. 1 Thessalonians 3:12	2 "May we be faithful in building up communion among all your people and caring for all your creation. Make us wise, make us holy, make us one." - Marianne Race, CSJ	3 "Day by day, dear Lord, of these three things I pray; to see thee more clearly, to love thee more dearly, to follow thee more nearly, day by day." - Richard of Chichester	4 Good and gracious God, may I be open to hear what spiritual gift you are calling me to open up during this holy season of Advent.	5 "Speak Justice. Act today in some small, yet significant way. Then again tomorrow and the day after that." - Kathy Jeffers, CSJ Associate  Int'l Volunteer Day	6 "Teach me when to speak and when to listen, when to ponder and when to share. In moments of challenge and decision, attune my heart to the whisperings of your wisdom." - Pat Bergen, CSJ
7 "Gracious God, Mary had a faith that your Spirit prepared and a love that never knew sin. Trace in our actions the lines of her love and in our hearts, her readiness of faith." - Lucy Silvio, CSJ 2nd Sunday of Advent	8 "Ask Mary to draw us closer to her Son so that like Mary we might give a whole-hearted 'YES' to whatever is asked!" - Rita Schmitz, CSJ Carondelet  Feast of Immaculate Conception	9 "At a moment in my life when the world is new. And the blessing I shall ask is that God will grant me, to be brave and strong and true, And to fill the world with love my whole life through." - Leslie Bricusse	10 "Many would like the poor to keep on saying that it is God's will for them to live that way. But, it is not God's will for some to have everything and others to have nothing." - Oscar Romero U.N. Human Rights Day	11 Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.  Romans 15:7	12 "Many of us have made our world so familiar that we do not see it anymore. An interesting question to ask yourself at night: What did I really see this day?" - John O'Donohue	13 "You enter life a ship laden with meaning, purpose and gifts to be delivered to a hungry world. As much as the world needs your cargo, you need to give it away." - Greg Kimura
14 "Each day God teaches us in ways we may not recognize: in the words of scripture, through the actions of friends, in the natural world surrounding us." - Karen Kennelly, CSJ Carondelet 3rd Sunday of Advent	15 "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' Matthew 3:3	16 "Everything in balance: heart, humility, detachment, prayer, trust, solitude, love of God and neighbor, a life joyous and free." - CSJ Maxim 100	17 "Take time today to remember and pray with joy for the individuals on that Christmas card list and for those remembered with love." - Shawn Madigan, CSJ Carondelet	18 Throughout human history, migration has been a courageous expression of the individual's will to overcome adversity and to live a better life.  Int'l Migrants Day	19 "Everything is a gift. The degree to which we are awake to this truth is a measure of our gratefulness, and gratefulness is a measure of our aliveness." - David Steindl-Rast, OSB	20 "Emmanuel, walk with us. Teach us to love one another and to treasure the beauty of all your creation. Help us to watch for 'God with us' in each person we meet and in all of creation." - Jeanne Cmolik, CSJ
21 "As we celebrate the 'Word made Flesh,' we renew our daily 'yes' and thank Jesus for his gift of Incarnation—one with all creation!" - Rita Schmitz, CSJ Carondelet 4th Sunday of Advent	22 "Jesus abiding in us shows up in how we live our lives, especially the words we speak. Both the written and spoken word can make an impact." - Lisa Hennessy	23 "Make ready for the Christ, whose smile, like lightning, sets free the song of everlasting glory that now sleeps in your paper flesh, like dynamite." - Thomas Merton	24 In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. John 1:4-5  Christmas Eve	25 "Listen to the voices of angels. Respond with haste. Notice incarnations everywhere. Let Love smile through you to liberate the glory of Love in all." - Pat Bergen, CSJ  Christmas Day	26 "God comes to us in such a fully human way that we need not be afraid, overwhelmed, or intimidated." - Marcella Clancy, CSJ	27 "Let not your heart be troubled, His tender word I hear, And resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears; ...His eye is on the sparrow, And I know he watches me." - Civilla D. Martin
28 I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. Ecclesiastes 3:12-13	29 Grant us, Lord God, a vision of your world as your love would have it: a world where the weak are protected, and none go hungry or poor; a world where the riches of creation are shared, and everyone can enjoy them.	30 A world where different races and cultures live in harmony and mutual respect; a world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love. Give us the inspiration and courage to build it.	31 "I dream a world where all voices are praying and they're saying that Love is the only answer." - Kathy Sherman, CSJ  New Year's Eve			

# Meet the Artists



On the Cover:

## *Sunflowers and the Blue Jay*

by Anne Camozzi

An artist and author, Anne paints and writes as a form of meditation and prayer to transform her physical pain into comfort and serenity for others and to inspire acts of social justice. From an early age, Anne experienced the Divine in nature and is a life-long advocate for the environment, women's issues, and the disabled. This image, painted on silk, celebrates the connectedness of all life and with our mother, the Earth.

[AnneCamozzi.com](http://AnneCamozzi.com)



January:

## *Song from the Shadows*

by Sister Mary Southard, CSJ

Sister Mary is an artist whose paintings reflect her close connection to and love for the natural world and what it is to be a participant in the magnificent universe. Her art explores and gives expression to our soul's journey within this intimate and interconnected sacred community of life, with all its beauty, pain and mystery.

[MarySouthard.org](http://MarySouthard.org) or [MinistryoftheArts.org](http://MinistryoftheArts.org)



February:

## *Peaceful Heart*

by Angela L. Chostner

Angela lives in St. Louis and exhibits throughout the Midwest. About her art she says, "When I paint, it feels like a dance, where my heart speaks to the canvas, and the painting that slowly emerges reflects every feeling, prayer, meditation and intention poured in. My themes are virtues I explore, such as trust, respect, and wisdom. My paintings evolve as my understanding does, often in directions that surprise me. My process is fluid and requires that I stay in the moment, my skills always in service to my vision."

[AngelaLChostnerArt.com](http://AngelaLChostnerArt.com)





March:

## *Aerial Ballet of Peace Cranes*

by Sandy Bot-Miller

Sandy is an artist and poet from St. Cloud, MN. Although most of the images in Sandy's art rise from her own inner stirrings (dreams, experiences of loss, connection, mystery and healing), as well as concerns unfolding in the world, her hope is that viewers may find parts of their life stories present in her works as well.

[sandybotmiller@gmail.com](mailto:sandybotmiller@gmail.com)



April:

## *Looking to Each Other*

by Susan Cohen Thompson

Originally from New York, Susan developed her view of nature through the art she saw in museums as a child. After earning a BFA in Ohio, she lived and worked in art and design in New England until moving to Camano Island, Washington in 2003. Her view that everything is interdependent and interconnected is the foundation of her image making. Her art is internationally published in books, on book covers and in articles on Earth wisdom. Susan's paintings, ceramics and drawings have shown in museums, galleries and juried exhibitions throughout Washington State. Her website is filled with images of her work.

[ThompsonArtStudio.com](http://ThompsonArtStudio.com)



May:

## *Breathe In the Silence*

by Sister Frankie Dutil, CSJ

Sister Frankie has enjoyed art since childhood. After working with several different media, she came to love watercolor the best. This medium defies precise control yet yields wonderful results when we are able to let go. She thinks of watercolor as a lesson for living - when the water and the paint take off on their own and we feel that we are not in control. However, this is where the unexpected becomes better than what we had originally planned. Watercolor teaches us that beauty often emerges when we stop struggling for control in our lives.

[MinistryoftheArts.org](http://MinistryoftheArts.org)



June:

## *Garden Gate*

by Sister Marie Benzing, CSJ

Sister Marie taught young children for many years, and found that painting added dimension to her life. It rose out of her love for beauty and creation and the sheer excitement she experienced working with color, shape and design. She intends her work to stand as a pledge to honor God, who is the primary artist of all beauty.

[MinistryoftheArts.org](http://MinistryoftheArts.org)



July:

## *Aspens*

by Betsy Kinnick

Betsy is an artist from Omaha NE. She was introduced to the universe story ten years ago and has since been a source of inspiration for her artwork. Betsy says, "When I do art, I like to express what is alive in me. Creating art is a way to touch the heart of things that matter most."

[kinnickbetsy@yahoo.com](mailto:kinnickbetsy@yahoo.com)



August:

## *Ghost Weaving*

by Sister Marion Honors, CSJ

Sister Marion is a nationally and internationally recognized artist. Her work includes relief and intaglio prints, monoprints, monotypes, drawings and paintings, collages, painted embossments and monotype printmaking with water-based inks. She has painted embossments and illustrations for children's books and other publications. Her latest work is an exploration of what she calls "painting/print assemblages."

[CSJCarondelet.org](http://CSJCarondelet.org)



September:

## *Finding Light in the Darkness*

by Sister Carrie Vall, CSJ

Sister Carrie first taught art at a mission school in Lumberton, NM, and later at Saint Joseph Academy in Cleveland. These experiences showed her the healing benefits of artmaking, which led her to go back to school where she earned a Master of Arts in Art Therapy Counseling. Carrie enjoys working with a variety of groups, using a variety of media, and interweaving prayer and reflection.

[MinistryoftheArts.org](http://MinistryoftheArts.org)





October:

## *Autumn Path*

by Sister Pat Willems, CSJ

Before her passing in 2023, Sister Pat taught watercolor painting at The Well Spirituality Center in LaGrange Park, IL. She was certified in art therapy and spiritual direction, and loved to paint nature, people and landscapes. Sister Pat often said, "Self-expression is a privilege each of us has, and when used, unites us with the energy of God as Creator."

[MinistryoftheArts.org](https://MinistryoftheArts.org)



November:

## *Unto the Seventh Generation*

by Marie Spaeder Haas

Marie is an avid watercolorist, originally from the Pennsylvania shores of Lake Erie, who now enjoys a home in rural Tennessee near the Ocoee River. Though her academic training was in biology, and teaching was her early career, interest in painting and drawing were very important to her from a very early age.

[SpaederHaasGallery.com](https://SpaederHaasGallery.com)



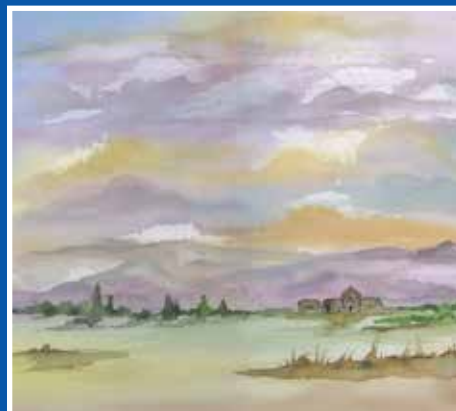
December:

## *Mittens*

by Sister Richard Mehren, CSJ

Before her passing in 1990, Sister Richard was an accomplished artist best known for her intricate wood carvings, sculptures, and mosaics. She studied art at the American Academy of Art in Chicago, and at the University of Notre Dame, where she earned a Masters in Art. She went on to teach art to students at many Catholic schools in the Chicago area, and later to adults at the Ikon School of Art.

[MinistryoftheArts.org](https://MinistryoftheArts.org)



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