

Spirit of Victory Noll carried to peace rally

By Paul Siegfried

Even as she stands alongside 20,000 people in front of the gates at Fort Benning in Columbus, Ga., OLVM Sister Angeline Walczyk knows the immense physical size of the crowd pales in comparison

to the number that are also there in spirit, including the dozens she represents from her community back home at Victory Noll.



Sr. Angeline Walczyk

For the past 18 years, protestors have gathered at the United States military base, which hosts what was previously known as the School of the Americas, now called the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation.

"Men, mostly from Latin America, have been trained there in atrocious warfare," says Sr. Angeline. "Then they go back to their own countries and inflict this, killing many of their own people. Our efforts have been to close this."

The protests date back to 1990, following the 1989



Photo by Linda Panetta, Optical Realities

Marchers carry crosses as they protest outside Fort Benning military base in Columbus, Ga.

murders of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter in El Salvador. The protests began the next year on the anniversary of the killings, over a three-day weekend in November.

Sr. Angeline has attended the event for the past eight years. And while she physically travels alone, she knows she carries the bless-

ings of many with her.

"I get lots of support from my own Sisters here," she says. "I wear a special tilma, and they have signed their names to a paper, and I have handed copies of that paper out to people. It showed that I was not alone there in Columbus, but 80-some other women were there with me. They were

delighted to participate, to know that they were with me in this way. It extended their mission from here in participating."

As a veteran of a number of gatherings, Sr. Angeline helps guide others on Sunday, the day of the main march to the gates of Fort Benning.

"I've participated in various ways over the years, but this year I participated directing the thousands of people through the procession as they came on Sunday morning," she says. "They all came carrying white crosses, and on each cross there was a name of someone who had been killed by soldiers trained by this institution in our country.

"As they came up to the fence at the base, people tucked their crosses in there. Many of these people

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EN ESPAÑOL

El espíritu de Victory Noll llevado a la protesta por la paz

Cuando acompaña a más de 20,000 personas a las puertas de Fort Benning en Columbus, Georgia, la Hna. Angeline Walczyk sabe que hay muchos más que le acompañan en espíritu. Son sus hermanas que viven en Victory Noll, la casa madre, que le apoyan con sus oraciones.

Dice: "He participado de muchas

maneras en años pasados. Este año he ayudado con la procesión de los miles que vinieron el domingo por la mañana. Llevaban cruces blancas con el nombre inscrito de alguien que había sido matado por soldados entrenados por esta institución militar, Fort Benning, ubicada en nuestro país."

OLVM Constitution provides inspiration

By Sr. Lucy Regalado

As I was reflecting on what to share about my ministry, I used our Constitution as I believe it sets the spirit of what I am involved in at this time.

As missionary sisters, we depend upon the power of the Holy Spirit as we enter into our ministry with Jesus' impelling love. We look to Mary, courageous woman of faith and mother of the Church, to inspire us to be courageous women in ministry. (Constitution No. 23)

My ministry in Phoenix, Ariz. in the Kino Institute is a challenge which makes me aware of our OLVM commitment to be women who are growing, learning and changing.

"Kino Institute provides programs for theological studies and pastoral ministry formation for the Diocese of Phoenix in English and Spanish that promotes the lay apostolate and serves as the theological formation for the diaconate studies program." (KINO INSTITUTE Faculty Handbook, pg. 3)

As part of the Adjunct Faculty in the program, I have the responsibility and the privilege to prepare lay women and men who desire to respond to their baptismal call to serve and who want to be prepared for their ministry. This year I accepted to teach three topics, two in Spanish: "Introduction to the Catholic Faith" and "Theology of Ministry"; and one in English: "The Mission of the Church: Evangelization and Catechesis." The best way to describe my experience of



Photo by Mick Welsh

OLVM Sister Lucy Regalado (right) talks with Ignacio Rodriguez, a student at the Kino Institute in the Diocese of Phoenix.

this new challenge is one of being a student, learning along with those in class and begin renewed by them as together we strive to make real the vision of Jesus, the coming of the reign of God and to work to make it happen.

I am a member of the Diocesan Vocation Committee. We meet to plan and implement days of discernment and retreat for women and men interested in religious life. These experiences have given me an opportunity to meet other men and women religious and those interested in discerning their call.

EN ESPAÑOL

OLVM Constitución ofrece inspiración

En reflexionar sobre lo que deseaba compartir tocante mi ministerio, utilicé nuestra Constitución porque creo que da el espíritu en lo que estoy haciendo en este momento.

Como hermanas misioneras, dependemos de la fuerza del Espíritu Santo al comenzar nuestro ministerio con el amor de Jesús que nos impulsa. Miramos a María, mujer valiente de fe y Madre de la Iglesia, para

inspirarnos para ser mujeres valientes en nuestro ministerio. (Constitución Nu. 23)

Mi ministerio en Phoenix, Arizona en el Instituto Kino es un desafío que me hace consciente de nuestro compromiso de ser mujeres que están creciendo, aprendiendo y cambiando. Instituto Kino provee programas para estudios de teología y formación de ministerio pastoral para la Diócesis de Phoenix

en Inglés y Español que promueve el apostolado del laico y la formación teológica para el programa de estudios para diáconos. Como parte de la Facultad Accesorial en el programa tengo la responsabilidad y el privilegio de preparar el laico, mujeres y varones, que desean dar respuesta a su llamado bautismal de servir y que quieren prepararse para su ministerio.

Faith development at heart of ministry

By Sr. Ginger Downey

As the Director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Phoenix, my days are as unpredictable as any pastoral minister. My main responsibilities are around three major areas: planning and implementation of major diocesan liturgies, day to day operations of the Office of Worship and on-going liturgical formation within the diocese.

All major diocesan liturgies take time in planning and coordinating the different ministries and aspects of liturgy. These liturgies include diaconate and priesthood ordinations, the Chrism Mass and Rite of Election. I also plan and coordinate smaller Episcopal liturgies where Bishop Thomas Olmsted, the ordinary for the Diocese of Phoenix, presides for particular groups or organizations. These include the annual Blue Mass for emergency personnel, the Red Mass for the start of the State Legislative session and catechists and fraternal organizations who have special liturgies throughout the year.

The second area is the day-to-day operations of the Office of Worship which includes overseeing the chapel for daily mass at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, answering questions from parishes and parishioners, networking with different Diocesan departments and being a support person for the parish music and liturgy ministers. It also includes networking with regional and national organi-



Photo by Mick Welsh

zations in the area of liturgy and liturgical formation.

OLVM Sisters Ginger Downey (left) and Lucy Regalado minister in the Diocese of Phoenix, Ariz.

The third area of my ministry is on-going formation and liturgical training for parish ministers, presentations on liturgical and other areas of interest such as women spirituality and discernment. I currently am adjunct faculty for the Kino Institute, Diocesan adult formation program, where I teach a five-week course on Liturgy and the Sacraments. As the Director of the Office of Worship I also do the majority of the liturgical formation in our permanent Diaconate program and work with those men who are recently ordained.

All three areas further the OLVM charism by working with adults to help in the on-going formation and faith development of the future leadership of the local Church.

Todos los tres campos promueven el carisma de las Hermanas Misioneras de Nuestra Señora de la Victoria por trabajar con adultos para la continua formación y desarrollo de la fe de los futuros líderes en la Iglesia local.

EN ESPAÑOL

El desarrollo de fe es el centro de ministerio

Como Directora de la Oficina del Culto para la Diócesis de Phoenix, los días de todo mi ministerio son imprevisibles. Mis responsabilidades son en tres campos: planificación y ejecución de liturgias mayores diocesanas, administración de cada día de la Oficina del Culto y la continua formación liturgica en la diócesis.

Toda mayor liturgia diocesana toma tiempo para planificar y coordinar los ministerios diferentes y los aspectos de liturgia. Las liturgias incluyen las ordenaciones de sacerdotes y de diáconos permanentes, la Misa del Crisma y el Rito de Elección. Planificar y coordinar las pequeñas liturgias Episcopales donde el Obispo Thomas Olmsted, el ordinario de la Diócesis de Phoenix, preside para los grupos y organizaciones particulares. Estas liturgias incluyen la anual Misa Azul para el personal de emergencias, la Misa Roja para el comienzo de sesiones de la Asamblea Legislativa Estatal, para catequistas y organizaciones fraternal que tienen liturgias especiales durante el año.

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New shelter provides for those in need

By Sr. Mary Alice Murphy

I thought that you might appreciate knowing how the Day Shelter is progressing and how many we have served in the seven weeks we have been opened. We serve the homeless five days of the week.



Photo by Ken John

A couple gathers their belongings after spending time at the Day Shelter at the Center for Hope in Fort Collins, Colo.

without the help of 14 volunteers who contribute over 214 hours of service. Frequently volunteers bring over snacks and desserts.

The following statistics will give you a small idea of how your contribution has helped:

We have had a total of 760 individuals served in seven weeks, of that number there has been a total of 8 children and 11 women. Nine of our clients have secured permanent housing. All have been given a warm meal each day. We had over 60 a day during the recent cold spell.

On behalf of the Homeless, the Staff and the volunteers we thank you for caring for those in our community who are suffering and poor.

The Day Shelter provides a warm safe environment for families, individuals and couples. We provide a hot meal at noon. Some of the homeless work part time, but do not earn enough to make ends meet. Over 20 percent have physical disabilities and more than 25 percent have an impairment that is either emotional or mental in origin. It is estimated that 10 percent have more than one diagnosis.

The folks are most grateful to have a place and are more than willing to set up every day, shovel snow, and clean up every night. Catholic Charities is staffing the shelter and at times there is a case manager present. We would not be able to run the Day Shelter

Day Shelter isn't just a shelter

By Ken John
Homeless Gear
www.HomelessGear.com

I've been actively involved with the new Fort Collins Winter Day Shelter from the planning stage through its first month and a half of operation and I continue to struggle with the words "day shelter" to adequately represent it. I will grant that one of its main functions is to provide basic shelter but to stop there would be like saying the old general stores were there to provide hardware and candy.

The day shelter is so much more than we imagine. It's more of a community resource center. The shelter provides a place to go for a warm shower, research or e-mail time on the Internet, chairs and table space to fill out job or apartment applications, a dry and comfortable place to catch a little bit of extra sleep, a warm meal, a telephone to make or receive a call, a place to dry out wet gear, and a TV to take your mind off the day's worries or get caught up on the news.

More than all of these things the day center is a communications hub. This is a place where people can come to meet one another in a warm, dry and non-hostile environment. For those of us that are providing goods or services to help the homeless the shelter is invaluable for locating these folks and having a quiet comfortable place to work with them. Instead of a two minute session in some parking lot I can now spend quality time getting to know these folks and for them to know and trust me.

You see what I mean? "Day Shelter" just doesn't do it justice.

Programs offer personal, spiritual growth

By Sue Wilhelm
Director, Victory Noll Center

The heart of what Victory Noll Center is about is to be a welcoming place where individuals and groups can come to grow spiritually and personally. In the fall we had a wonderful turnout for a variety of Programs. The Labyrinth Retreat and the Spirituality Retreat invited people to the interior place of meeting God and responding through walking meditation, praying and writing Psalms, and delighting in God's marvelous works of nature. The Intergenerational Women's Day Away brought together grandmothers, mothers, daughters, aunts, nieces and sisters to a place where they could explore their relationships, hear the stories about the women in their families and discover their own unique giftedness formed by these women. Yoga and Tai Chi were also offered.

Winter Programs

The winter calendar includes two ongoing programs that we hope people will take advantage of. One is "The Poetry of Prayerful People." The purpose of this course is to deepen our own prayer as we study the poetic expressions of Christians whose source of inspiration came from Biblical images and their own passionate love of Jesus. The Psalms of David, and the writings of Hildegard of Bingen, Francis of Assisi, Julian of Norwich, and Thomas Merton are just a few of the authors we hope to become acquainted with.

The other ongoing event is a Taize Evening Prayer Service that will be held twice a month at Victory Noll Center. Following an ancient prayer pattern found in the Church we will



Victory Noll Sisters Angeline Walczyk and Mary Joan Ginsterblum (right) join with a family during the La Posada celebration at Victory Noll Center.

gather to sing and pray and ponder in silence the words of scripture with the intention of praying for reconciliation and peace in our own hearts and for the world.

Other offerings through the Center include a Poverty Simulation, Yoga, A Gathering for Spiritual Directors, an evening for couples, and a Lenten Retreat. Visit our website for more

information and details!

Villa available

Finally we invite you to consider joining us for overnight retreats! The Villa is now available for small groups for retreats. Directed and group retreats are part of the spiritual growth we hope to offer here at Victory Noll Center.

Programas ofrecen el desarrollo personal y espiritual

EN ESPAÑOL

El enfoque central de Victory Noll Center es ser un lugar acogedor donde individuos y grupos pueden venir para crecer espiritualmente y personalmente. En el otoño tuvimos muchos participantes en una variedad de programas. El Retiro del Laberinto y el Retiro Espiritual fueron una invitación para entrar en el lugar interior del encuentro con Dios. Esto se hizo por medio de la meditación caminante, de la oración, de salmos escritos y la contemplación de la obra maravillosa de Dios en la naturaleza.

En el DIA Intergeneracional de la Mujer, se reunieron abuelas, madres, hijas, tías, sobrinas y hermanas para hablar sobre su relación, escuchar las historias de otras mujeres en la familia y descubrir los dones que habían recibido por medio de estas mujeres.

VN associates honored for lives of service

By Sr. Rose Ann Kaiser

On August 14, 2008, Bishop Placido Rodriguez, of Lubbock, Texas blessed the Hay-Perea Addition of Catholic Family Services, Inc./Catholic Charities in Lubbock with 100 former employees, board members, volunteers, etc. in attendance. Steve and Palmira Perea-Hay, after whom the addition was named, served 18 years at Catholic Family Service, which assists low-income persons in West Texas with emergency assistance, counseling, immigration and youth services. Archbishop Michael Sheehan was the founding Bishop of the Diocese of Lubbock in 1983 and contributed generously to the creation and development of Catholic Family Service, Inc.

Steve and Palmira, who each had master's degrees in social work, began their ministries in Lubbock in 1982 as volunteers with VESS (Volunteers for Educational and Social Service), a program sponsored by the Texas Catholic Conference. Steve served as Coordinator for the Justice and Peace Program for Catholic Family Services for 5 years (1 year as a volunteer) in advocacy, and carrying out Catholic Social Teaching through education and action. Part of the action was in ministry with farm workers and immigrants, as well as being engaged in community organization activity with IAF (Industrial Area Foundation). Beginning in 1988 he served as executive director of Catholic Family Service, Inc. for 13 years until the year 2000.

Palmira volunteered her services for 14 years as Program Director of the Family Life Service Program which provided counseling services to adults and youth. She also directed



Bishop Placido Rodriguez of the Diocese of Lubbock, Texas (right) joins Victory Noll Associates Steve and Palmira Perea-Hay (left) at the opening of the Hay-Perea Addition of Catholic Family Services, Inc./Catholic Charities in August.

a VISTA Volunteer Program which assisted families throughout the diocese of Lubbock.

During the 18 years Steve and Palmira served in Lubbock, the Catholic Family Services staff grew from 13 to 50 and the budget from \$300,000 to \$2 million, extending services throughout the diocese. Having come to serve for one year as volunteers, they stayed for 18 years responding to the privilege and the incredible challenges of being an integral part of building the new Diocese of Lubbock. It was an adventure that became a great blessing for everyone involved.

Wanting to be part of a small community of faith, Steve and Palmira (a former Victory Noll Sister) became Victory Noll Associates while in Lubbock. They came to know Sisters Martha Molohon, Martha Wilke, Marjorie Curran, Mechtilde Gogel, and Angela Marzen, the Victory Noll sisters serving in the new Lubbock diocese at that time, as great examples of women dedicated to working with the poor

and developing a strong spiritual life. Victory Noll Sisters had been ministering in Lubbock since 1928. Steve and Palmira respected the work of these sisters in ministering with the Hispanic community through religious education and pastoral care, and participated with them in some of their parish ministries.

Steve and Palmira moved to New Mexico in 2000, which began a whole new chapter in their story of adventurous living in service to God's Mission, and will be told another time. They continue their partnership with the Victory Noll Sisters as covenant associates by serving on the Vocation Ministries Planning Team, which includes planning for promotion of vowed membership, associate partnership, and the development of the new Victory Noll Missioner program. Steve and Palmira are shining examples of what it means to link arms as associates with Victory Noll Sisters that God's reign of love may come more fully in our lives and in our world.

Leuchtefeld continues annual holiday rite



Kevin Leuchtefeld holds a stack of letters during his time at Victory Noll helping Sisters write and send Christmas letters.

By Sr. Martha Wordeman

Kevin Leuchtefeld is a man of many talents, which he uses generously to bring joy to each person he meets. One talent, which surprises and delights, is his ability to remember names. This talent brings a sparkle to the eyes, a smile to the face and a vast increase in self esteem for the recipient.

Kevin comes each Thanksgiving weekend to Victory Noll to write and address Christmas letters for Sisters who need help. He arrives with his laptop computer, which gives him the freedom to work anywhere. This year, he came with a supply of Christmas stationery, a gift of a friend, Sandy Morris, who is also known for her chocolate-covered strawberries. Kevin created letters for 15 Sisters this year.

Kevin is a tenor and sings in the choir at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, Ill, where he lives. He traditionally joins our choir while at Victory Noll and this year put on a "one-man Advent Cantata" for us, which we all enjoyed.

Kevin is a "born and bred" Victory Noll missionary. The nephew of Victory Noll Sister Florence Leuchtefeld, Kevin's mother and his aunt Clara began "The Sister Florence Mission Band" to support her mission work. Later it was called "Our Lady of Perpetual Help." Their members met in the afternoon to make things for the missions. When more people joined, who could only come in the evening, they started a second group and distinguished between the two by calling one the "day club" and the other the "night club".

Freely you have received,
freely give.

Matthew 10:8

Kevin travels around the world for the Bunge Co., an agribusiness supplying food products where he is Senior Manager of Internal Audit. Talking with him on this aspect of his life, one is assured that he brings to his profession a high standard of ethics and morality.

EN ESPAÑOL

Leuchtefeld continúa rito anual de Navidad

Kevin viene a Victory Noll cada año en el Día de Dar Gracias, al fin de semana para escribir y dirigir las cartas de Navidad de las Hermanas que necesitan ayuda. Trae su computadora la cual le da libertad de trabajar en cualquier lugar. Este año llegó con un surtido de papel apropiado para cartas de Navidad, un regalo de una amiga, Sandy Morris, quien es reconocida por sus fresas cu-

biertas de chocolate. Kevin ayudó a quince Hermanas con las cartas de Navidad.

Kevin tiene una voz tenor y canta con el coro del Santuario de Nuestra Señora de las Nieves en Belleville, donde él vive. Tradicionalmente canta con el coro de Victory Noll mientras está aquí. Este año nos presenta una Cantata de Adviento, de la cual gozamos mucho.

Continued: Spirit of Victory Noll carried to peace rally

were family members or missionaries who witnessed the killings. As they went to the fence, many knelt, prayed and cried. Because the crowd was so large, we had to keep them moving. But we had to do that with much sensitivity. That was a very moving experience for me."

Sr. Angeline continues to hope for the closure of the Fort Benning academy, especially now with a new presidential administration. But she says she will return as long as she needs to and is still physically able to go.

"I'm thankful to have had the health and strength to be able to go and

represent not only my community here on the hill, but also the people of Indiana," she says. "You meet a lot of people, and you're all there for a common purpose of raising awareness of how we are in wars that are not necessary, and how we hope to put a stop to that."



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In Memoriam

*Sr. Mildred Weber, OLVM
November 22, 2008*

*Sr. Jean Brosnan, OLVM
December 8, 2008*

*Sr. Mary Ruth Kramer, OLVM
December 20, 2008*

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