

January 21, 2021

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Justice update

- COVID Vaccine Access
- The Global Health Connection

### COVID-19 vaccinations

Sisters roll up their sleeves

### Book review

“Women of Mercy”

## CALENDAR

### February 14

St. Valentine's Day

### February 15

Presidents' Day

### February 17

Ash Wednesday



*Community eNews is a semimonthly communication from South Central*

# Community eNews

## Healing and Hope

In today's Gospel, Mark 3:7-12, a multitude of people come from Galilee, Judea, Idumea, Tyre and Sidon because they had heard what Jesus was doing. They wanted to touch Jesus, knowing his presence meant healing the sick and bringing peace to the distressed.

The desire for healing and peace is nowhere more present than in our world today. We want healing from the virus that has taken such a heavy toll. We want relief from the distress of a downturned economy. We want justice for people who are oppressed and marginalized. We want the end of our divisions, and we want peaceful ways of demonstrating our differences.

Today's Gospel invites us to trust—trust that God is present in the midst of all these difficulties; trust that God is inviting us to be the hands and feet of Jesus as we respond; trust that if we really attend to the common good, there is hope for our future; trust that all shall be well, all manner of things shall be well.

The liturgical season of Christmas is now over. But we are meant to acknowledge that God became incarnate and is truly Emmanuel—“God with us,” always.

*Mary Rose Pat Jane Debbie*



Click on the icons below to follow the Sisters of Mercy on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



# Justice update

## COVID VACCINE ACCESS FOR LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

On December 29, 2020, the Vatican issued a [statement](#) to “remind world leaders that vaccines must be provided to all fairly and equitably, prioritizing those most in need.” Amnesty International has reported that the U.S. and other wealthier countries have reserved the largest percentage of available vaccines, more than required for their populations.

Normally, low-income countries must wait much longer for access to new vaccines, either because of low availability or high prices. A global risk-sharing mechanism for pooled procurement and equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, the COVAX Facility, was created to avoid this by assuring more equitable access. It partners with Gavi, the international vaccine alliance. By the end of 2021, COVAX’s 190 participating economies will be able to reach up to 20 percent of their populations, if requested, with vaccines.

More than \$2 billion was raised by the end of 2020, but at least \$4.6 billion more is needed in 2021. This will be critical to ensure that the roll-out of the vaccines is not contingent on people’s ability to pay.

The global plan to deliver COVID-19 vaccines to 20 percent of populations in poorer countries in 2021 was reportedly at “very high” risk of failure—primarily because of the lack of funding commitments from the U.S. and China. Insufficient funding could result in some countries not seeing a vaccine until 2024. For more information, click on the blue link below.

[A Fair Shot](#)

## THE GLOBAL HEALTH CONNECTION

All consideration of human health issues must be understood within the construct of the entire Earth community. All living creatures breathe the same air, drink the same water and share the same environment. When the air,

water and soil are healthy, so too will the wild-life, livestock and human beings flourish. But when the natural ecosystems are disrupted, havoc is wreaked upon all life forms. This has contributed to species extinction and the spread of disease.

It is clear that human disregard of environmental well-being has contributed greatly to our present health crisis. In recent decades zoonotic diseases (flu, Ebola, West Nile, Zika, dengue, HIV) have been spread from animals to humans. This can be attributed to several factors:

1. Human encroachment into wild habitats drives animals closer to humans, thus making humans susceptible to catching whatever viruses they carry.
2. Wild and exotic animal trading leads to what is called “virus spillover.”
3. The rise in global temperatures increases the range of insects such as mosquitoes, which carry many viruses.

Coronaviruses are commonly carried by bats. Global deforestation has brought humans and bats into closer contact. COVID-2, the virus that has caused the present pandemic, has been traced to horseshoe bats, which infected people in Hunan, China.

There will be more pandemics in the future. We must decide whether we have the will to work together to assure a healthy sustainable planet upon which all life can flourish.

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## Webinar Wednesday

### FILE MANAGEMENT IN WINDOWS 10

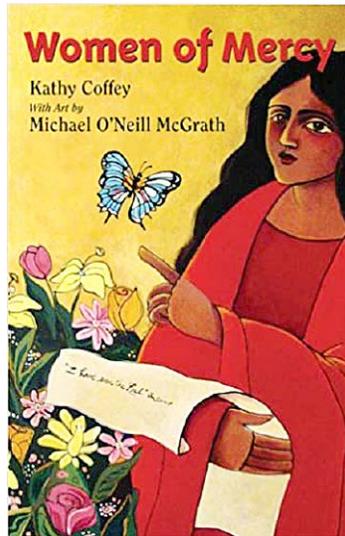
Register for the final live, instructor-led Zoom session of the month on Wednesday, January 27 at 2 p.m. ET. This session will cover basic file management in Windows 10 for your laptop. If you need help joining a Zoom meeting, contact Roslyn Davis, technology training manager, at [rxddavis@sistersofmercy.org](mailto:rxddavis@sistersofmercy.org). [Click here](#) to register.

# Book review

by *Sister Victoria Vondenberger*

## Women of Mercy

by Kathy Coffey with art by Michael O'Neill McGrath



Ann Seton, Kateri Tekakwitha, Frances Cabrini, Katherine Drexel, Josephine Bakhita (new to me), Thea Bowman, Dorothy Day and Teresa of Calcutta. There are careful details about the experience of these lives showing how they each reflect

God's mercy. Brother Michael's charcoal sketches were painted by high school students and hang in the school chapel, reminding teens amid the crises they endure that heroic women of faith can put teen anxiety into perspective: A sisterhood of women of mercy watching over maturing girls. Wouldn't Catherine McAuley be proud of this legacy! A weary older woman as well as a searching teen can find inspiration here to rekindle sparks of God's mercy in each of our hearts. This gallery of women of mercy brings an energizing sense that we can change our world, dancing together, one small moment at a time.

[Women of Mercy](#)

# Sisters receive COVID-19 vaccinations



(Left) Sisters wait in the community room of Catherine's Residence in St. Louis, Missouri, for their second COVID-19 vaccinations on January 8. From left to right, beginning with the sister with her hands in the air: Sisters Patricia Parker, Robyn Huser, Jeanette Noonan, Ann Crouse and Michaelanne Estoup. (Right) Sister Judy Carron receives her second COVID-19 vaccination on January 8 at Catherine's Residence in St. Louis, Missouri.

It was a historic moment at Catherine's Residence in St. Louis, Missouri, as 34 sisters rolled up their sleeves for their Pfizer COVID-19 vaccinations. Jessica Decker, RN, clinical director of nursing at the retirement residence, administered the first shots on December 18, 2020, and the second shots three weeks later on January 8.

All sisters who are residents received their two COVID-19 vaccinations here, along with 15 Sisters of Mercy who live in the area and 17 staff members. Mercy Hospital in St. Louis organized and distributed the vaccinations and covered related costs. Everyone's hope is that this will be a pathway to fewer restrictions in the future.

# Mercy in the news

## ST. VINCENT'S ACADEMY ALUMNA NAMED CHIEF OF STAFF

Vice President Kamala Harris has named St. Vincent's Academy alumna Tina Flournoy (SVA class of 1974) as her chief of staff. Harris said in a statement about the appointment that Flournoy's "deep experience, public policy expertise, and accomplished career in public service make her uniquely qualified for this important position." Flournoy was also former President Bill Clinton's chief of staff. Founded in 1845, St. Vincent's Academy is in Savannah, Georgia. [Click here](#) to read more in *Mercy Education: Good News Digest*.

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# More Mercy

You'll find additional news and information from the Sisters of Mercy in these publications:

- [Mercy eNews](#), weekly online newsletter from Mercy International Association
- [Investing in Mercy](#), monthly newsletter from Mercy Investment Services
- [Mercy Now](#), biweekly newsletter from the Institute
- [MESA Flash](#), weekly e-newsletter published by Mercy Education System of the Americas
- [¡Viva! Mercy](#), bimonthly magazine published by the Institute

# Today's attachments

- Directory changes for January 21, 2021
  - Webinar Wednesdays for January
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# Stay connected

Please send Karel Lucander, [karellucander@bellsouth.net](mailto:karellucander@bellsouth.net), your news, photos and captions by **Friday, January 29**, for publication in the next issue of *CommunityeNews*, which will come out **Thursday, February 4, 2021**. Stay well, and keep in touch!

# South Central Directory Updates

January 21, 2021

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	SECTION	CATEGORY	INFORMATION
Averbeck	Sr. Mary Louise	Sister	Residence	Stone Bridge 1576 Arbor Trail Court Cincinnati, OH 45231-1970 Direct Phone: 513.604.9946
Cockerham	Sr. Paula	Sister	Update	*Sister Paula Cockerham will be the new contact for the Star of the Sea in Tybee Island, GA
Erb	Sr. Cheryl	Sister	Residence	Stone Bridge 1453 Fieldcrest Court Cincinnati, OH 45231-1969 Direct Phone: 513.504.0842
			Ministry	Stone Bridge 1453 Fieldcrest Court Cincinnati, OH 45231-1969 Title: Discernment and Service in Mercy
Gottemoeller	Sr. Doris	Sister	Residence	Stone Bridge 1455 Fieldcrest Court Cincinnati, OH 45231-1969 Direct Phone: 513.673.9720
Meyer	Sr. Mary Martha	Sister	Residence	Sisters of Mercy 1949 Wolfangel Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45255-2404
Repka	Sr. Frances Ann	Sister	Residence	Sisters of Mercy 1527 Nature Trail Way Cincinnati, OH 45231-1974 Direct Phone: 513.313.8778

Rudemiller	Sr. Marjorie	Sister	Residence	Stone Bridge 1453 Fieldcrest Court Cincinnati, OH 45231-1969 Direct Phone: 513.305.1812
Wenning	Sr. Carol Ann	Sister	Residence	Stone Bridge 1576 Arbor Trail Court Cincinnati, OH 45231-1970 Direct Phone: 513.305.3113
			Ministry	Stone Bridge 1576 Arbor Trail Court Cincinnati, OH 45231-1970 Title: Sabbatical
Moody	Regina	Associate	Email	<a href="mailto:reginam7182@gmail.com">reginam7182@gmail.com</a>
			Cell Phone	704.853.9672
			Address	6308 Raven Rock Dr. Denver, NC 28037-0479

Email updates to: [ms2support@sistersofmercy.samanage.com](mailto:ms2support@sistersofmercy.samanage.com)



# Webinar Wednesdays

## January 2021

*Webinar Wednesdays* provide 30-minutes of LIVE instructor-led training via Zoom.

**Time:** 2:00pm (ET) via Zoom

[Click Here to Register](#)

**Jan 27**

**Basic File Management in  
Windows 10**

- Overview of Windows File Explorer
- View Files / Folders
- Create Folders
- Change how you view Files / Folders

For technical issues / questions, please contact your regional support team.