

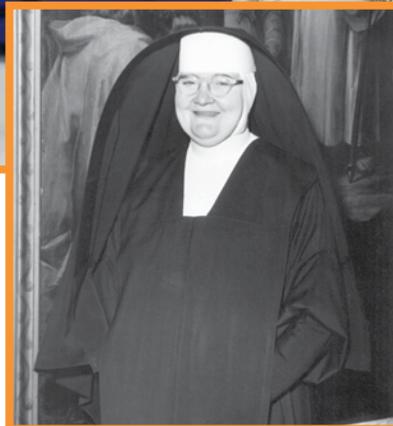
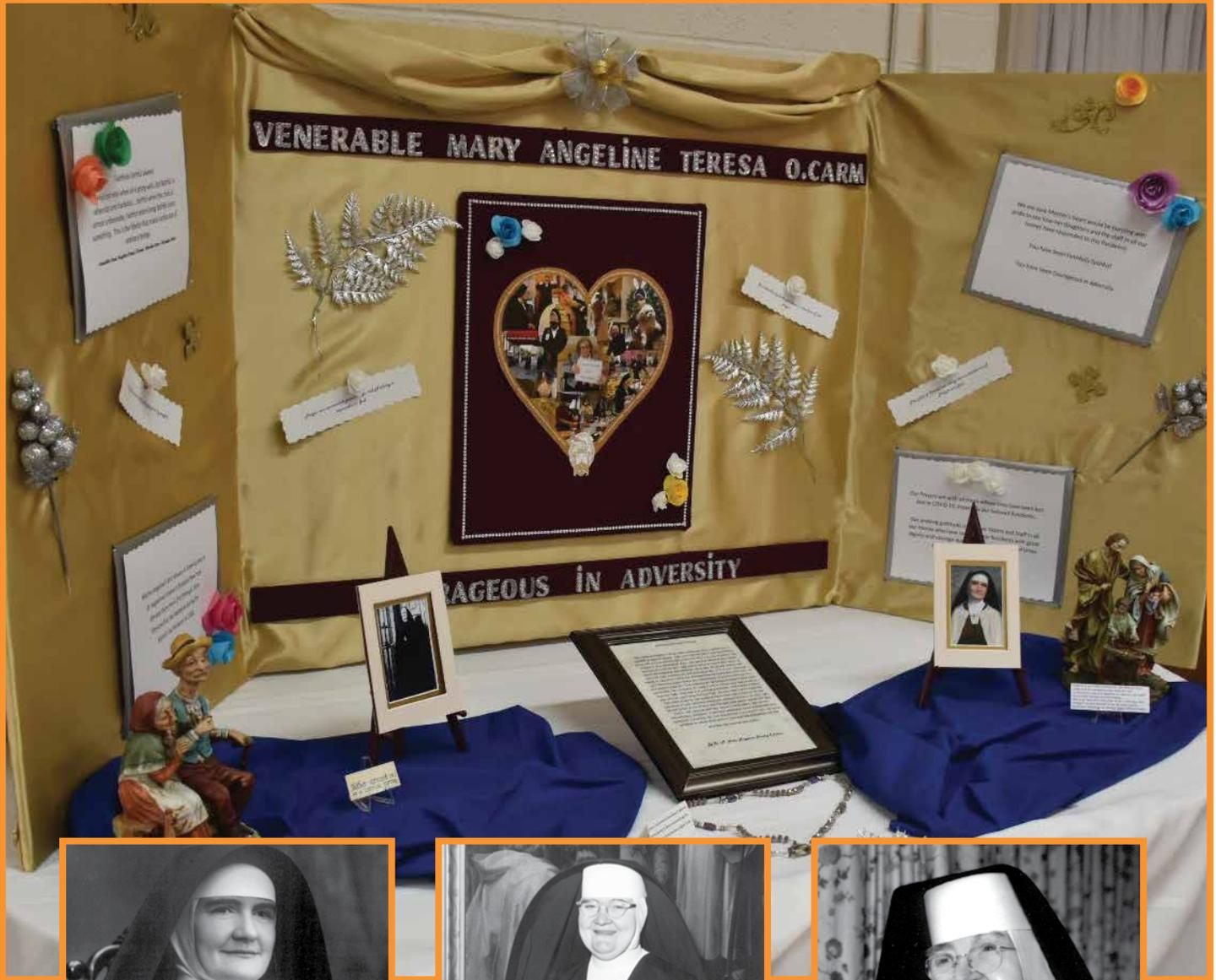


THE MOTHER ANGELINE SOCIETY

The Mother Angeline Society is dedicated to promoting the cause for beatification and canonization of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory, O. Carm, foundress of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm and advancing her charism in the church.



COURAGEOUS IN ADVERSITY



The 37th Anniversary of the Birth and Death of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa, O. Carm.



From the Pen of **Brother Robert Chiulli, O.Carm.**

In a year in which we all feel a bit bruised and exhausted from the effects of a global pandemic and a contentious presidential election, it would be understandable for us to want to seek some solace, and perhaps reflect on what impact these events have had on us. Many have written, in newspapers and in social media, that our culture needs to rediscover the virtue of kindness...to ourselves, to our neighbors, and to the greater world. The social isolation the pandemic has created has made us acutely aware of how necessary and vital human interactions are for healthy living. And when so many families have been torn apart by political differences, kindness would be a most welcome change.

A guiding philosophy Mother Angeline offered for her spiritual daughters was to be “kinder than kindness itself.” On the surface, this might not seem to be a particularly deep maxim, but in reality, it expresses a profound spiritual orientation that guided Mother Angeline throughout her life. When initially discerning her religious vocation, Mother Angeline experienced an attraction for the care of the elderly because she felt a particular sensitivity for the sufferings they endured. She said that, “as a child, I remember that I always thought of the elderly as lonely, hungry, and cold, and my heart went out in sympathy for them.” As her vocation to the elderly matured, she grew in her ability to see and understand life as the elderly in the homes she served did. The kindness she offered to the residents,

the kindness she wished her Sisters to have was rooted in empathy, or the ability to see and feel life through the eyes of another. Mother Angeline was keenly aware of how hard it was for an old person to leave the security of a home they had known for years to move into a strange place, of what a cross it is to endure years of declining health and loss of independence, and of how lonely and isolating old age can be. For these very reasons, Mother Angeline felt called to radically change the model of elder care that had been known at the time, and make homes for the aged that actually felt like “home” to the residents. She encouraged the residents to bring items from their old dwelling to their new place because she wanted them to feel a sense of belonging and peace. Mother herself wrote that she wanted “to provide a home for all nationalities and creeds, where the feeling of home will be stressed – a home with only such regulations as might be found in any well-regulated, right living and loving family, a home where the aged are free to come and go as they please, a home where the aged are loved and respected.” And for the Sisters who cared for them, Mother Angeline continually challenged them to be bearers of Christ’s love and compassion.

By exhorting her Sisters to be “kinder than kindness,” Mother Angeline was advocating a style of ministry that modeled the Little Way of St. Therese, in which small, thoughtful gestures of charity were encouraged over dramatic and bold ones. One

did not have to be uniquely clever or talented or strong, but rather be gently attuned to the needs of another, and then act on those needs as necessary. Sometimes a thoughtful word, a few moments of undivided attention, or a smile is all that is required for a person to realize that they are truly wanted and cared for. Just as Christ became human to experience everything we experience but sin, when we are willing to understand the sufferings of another and to see life from their perspective, we gain new insights into who they are, and can exhibit a deeper level of compassion. This is the philosophy of care that Mother Angeline instilled into her Sisters, and into all the faithful and dedicated employees of Carmelite homes for the aged, a philosophy that says that “if you are kind in thought, word, and deed, you will bring peace no matter where you go.” May Mother Angeline’s spirit of kindness spread like wildfire through a world that so desperately needs it.

EWTN

On January 21, 2021, the EWTN network aired the program “They Might Be Saints – Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory, O.Carm. The series, hosted by The Miracle Hunter Michael O’Neill, examines the lives of men and women of faith on the path to sainthood and the search for verifiable miracles.

Greetings from Father Mario

Dear Members of the
Mother Angeline Society,

Greetings and peace to you, as we write during the Holy Season of Lent. At this time of pandemic, please know that all of you, and your intentions are remembered in our prayers and the monthly Mass for all of the members of the Mother Angeline Society. Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa cared for the sick and aged all through her life. They were also in her prayers, and always the object of her compassionate and loving service. We can trust that from her place in paradise, she is continuing to pray for her Sisters, and for all who turn to her for heavenly intercession.

As if a dream come true, on Mother Angeline's Birthday and Anniversary, January 21, 2021, a long-awaited documentary about Mother, "They Might Be Saints" was aired on EWTN television. In just thirty minutes, the life, virtues and example of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa became known to millions of viewers who may have never heard of her, her work or her legacy before. The response has been tremendous. We are deeply grateful to those outside the Congregation at EWTN, and inside the Carmelite Sisters who worked so ardently to produce this fine documentary. The Venerable's life speaks for itself, and one is always left pondering the depths of



*Very Reverend Mario Esposito,
O.Carm., Vice Postulator*

her faith, her commitment to Jesus and Mary, and her mission. Mother's example and the inspiration that she bequeathed to her Sisters and their many coworkers in the various Homes for the Aged to this day, and under very trying circumstances, continue to serve the aged and infirm as Our Lord would serve them, and as if they are serving the Lord Himself.

Appropriately, this year we consider Mother Angeline as "Courageous in Adversity" and even a casual reading of her life is enough to convince one that, in every trial, the Venerable had ultimate trust in God, and faced into every storm. How much this virtue is needed today needs no explanation, but only imitation.

Thank you for supporting the Cause for the Beatification and Canonization of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa, O.Carm. Your prayers and financial assistance coupled with your "spreading the word" are invaluable. God bless you and Mary keep you always.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Father Mario, O.Carm." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Very Reverend Mario Esposito, O.Carm.
Vice Postulator

The Carmelite Sisters were invited to participate in this program in January 2019. Scenes of Mother Angeline's early life were filmed and interviews were conducted at Avila. Some of the filming was also done in St. Sylvia's Church and Rectory in Tivoli, NY. Karen, Angeline, Katie, Michael McCrory and Brigid McCrory Amundson depicted the McCrory family. Fr. Jim Hess, Sr. Veronica, Sr. Mary of Jesus and Sr. Julie depicted other persons in Mother's story. Filming was also done at St. Patrick's Residence in Naperville, IL to show our ministry to the aged and infirm.

The DVD of this program can be purchased on the EWTN website: www.ewtn.com.

NEW

New on the Mother Angeline Website!

Free word puzzles and coloring pages for children and adults. A short biographical profile snapshot of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa is given as a resource for the activity sheets. While completing any of these fun activities, one will become more familiar with Mother Angeline and her life's work in the Catholic Church.

These pages are found on this webpage:
<https://motherangeline.org/childrens-activities/>

Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa: Anniversary of Death and Birth 2021

On January 21, 2021, the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm celebrated the life of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa and the 37th anniversary of her passing to eternal life with a Eucharistic celebration held at Saint Teresa's Motherhouse. The theme chosen for this year's celebration was "Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa - Courageous in Adversity." The Mass, celebrated by the Very Reverend Mario Esposito, O.Carm. was live-streamed to the public and attended by the Avila Sisters.

Excerpts from Fr. Mario's Homily:

"We are gathered together around the altar, an altar the Venerable loved, and in a place that she loved. We are offering the Holy Mass to which she was so devoted, and we are thanking God for the gift Mother Angeline was and remains to us. We seek to draw from her life and charism the strength, guidance and inspiration we need today as we face into the wind and storms of the moment..."

On this day, we think of Mother Angeline as "Courageous in Adversity" and we read the biography of her life through the lens of our theme.... Throughout her religious life, there were trials of every kind, not just illness, but economic crises,

wars, and even cultural upheaval. The Venerable founded a religious Congregation, and led the same for a half a century. There had to be untold difficulties and problems to be solved, and we know some of them...

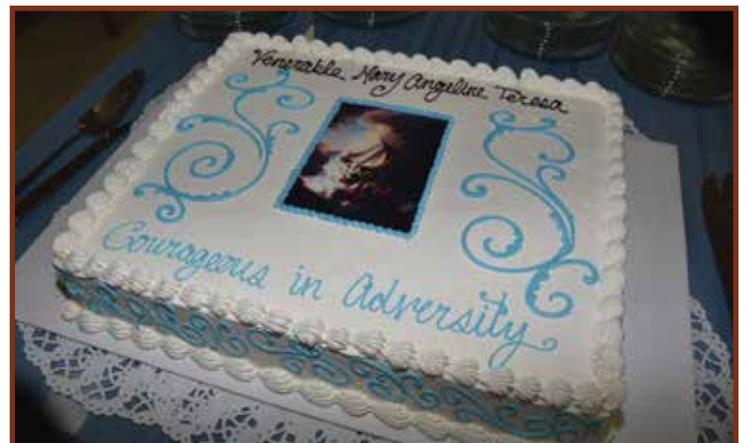
A face of courage, which we call bravery, enabled her to leave her loving home at a young age, and venture into a foreign land to follow her vocation, the same bravery that led her and her companions to leave the Little Sisters and found the Carmelite Sisters during the Great Depression. Faith, which births hope and human understanding, was the hallmark of Mother's spirit, and this gave her the courage she needed to face all things. Faith, unshakeable faith even when there was human pain galore, enabled Mother to cry, and to trust at the same moment, as her biographers note. Her courage in adversity came from a heart focused on Our Lord, Our Lady and trust in the Saints, a heart of faith that she nourished and was her grounding.

This faith also showed forth in the calm and sense of purposefulness with which she faced all things, and it produced joy and optimism in those around her. This spirit attracted many young women, such as yourselves, to follow a Carmelite vo-



*Above: Chapel Display;
Below, Fr. Mario Esposito, O.Carm.*

cation. Faith enabled Mother Angeline and can enable us as well, to take the long view, and not to be too quick to announce, "All is lost." Maybe a lot will change, but in faith and with courage, we have to commit ourselves to search for the finger of God in all things and allow ourselves to be surprised by what actually is revealed."



Above Left: Entrance Procession; Above Right: Cake

The Carmelite Sisters Celebrate 60 and 70 years of Religious Consecration to God



Sister M. Patricia Eileen Rosinski
60th Jubilee- 1960



Sister M. Patricia Michael Sweeney
60th Jubilee- 1960



Sister M. Patricia Treasa O'Callaghan
60th Jubilee- 1960



Sister M. Patrick of the Assumption Traynor
70th Jubilee- 1950

On October 4, 2020, Saint Teresa's Motherhouse at Avila-on-Hudson commemorated Sisters observing 70 and 60 years of religious jubilees. Sisters joined to thank God for the many graces He bestowed on these special women. Bishop Robert J. Brennan along with Very Rev. Mario Esposito, O.Carm., and Rev. James

Hess, O.Carm., celebrated the Jubilee Mass at Saint Teresa's Chapel.

The Jubilarians are Sister M. Patrick of the Assumption Traynor (70 years) and unable to attend were Sister M. Patricia Eileen Rosinski (60 years), Sister M. Patricia Michael Sweeney (60 years), and Sister M. Patricia Treasa O'Callaghan (60 years).

We offer our gratitude to the Jubilarians who have given so many years and so much of themselves to the service of God, the Church and our Community. May God bless them abundantly and may Our Lady of Mount Carmel enfold each in her mantle and draw them ever closer to her Son.



In Memorium: Sister M. Virginia Aloysius, O.Carm.

Sister M. Virginia Aloysius, O. Carm. passed away to eternal life on October 28, 2020 at Mary Manning Walsh Home. Sr. Virginia

had recently turned 96 years old and was in the 62nd year of her religious life.

During the 1960's she was missioned at Mary Manning Walsh Home, St. Patrick's Home, and St. Joseph's Manor. Her other missions were Josephine

Baird Home, St. Teresa's Motherhouse, Carmel Richmond, and Mary Manning Walsh Home. Sr. Virginia's ministries included bookkeeping, bursar work, clerical work, and pastoral care. Sr. Virginia Aloysius opened her heart to the residents and families that crossed her path, always taking time to talk with them and listen to their stories.

Sr. Virginia Aloysius did much of the typing for the book *Woman of Faith: Mother M. Angeline Teresa, O.Carm.*, and assisted in typing when needed in preparation for sending documentation to Rome for the promotion of the Cause for the Beatification and Canonization of Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa.

May she rest in God's good peace.

Sometimes, What Goes Around Comes Around

By Janice Smircich



Jackie Scovello

In 1995, Jackie Scovello was a student in my sixth grade class at Holy Cross School. For the next three years, Jackie and many of my students were volunteers at Teresian House in Albany. Under the guidance of Sister Eileen Fitzsimmons, O.Carm. the children learned how to communicate with the elderly residents. The students helped to make the day a little brighter for the residents by talking to them, doing nail care, singing, entertaining, or even partaking in a game of chess. In 1998, Hubbard Hall was built and the students helped set up rooms and get things assembled so that the residents could move into

the beautiful new memory floor called Carmel Gardens. The volunteers continued for a number of years.

People move on, and sometimes we lose touch with others. Recently my daughter Susanne, who is the Social Worker for Carmel Gardens, sent me a text with the name Jackie Scovello Camuglia. I immediately wrote back that Jackie had been one of my former students and a Teresian House volunteer. A few minutes later, I found out that Jackie was one of the new Nurse Practitioners (MSN) at Teresian House. To say I was thrilled would be an understatement! I contacted Jackie and discovered that she attended Hudson Valley Community College for her Associate degree in nursing, and SUNY Polytech Institute for her advanced degrees, BSN and MSN.

Virtual Tour of The Mother Angeline Heritage Center

A close up look at selected objects and their significance to Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa is given in this virtual tour slide show. Excerpts from Mother's own writings, and from books written about her, give a special insight to the collection at The Mother Angeline Heritage Center.

The virtual tour can be viewed on this webpage: <https://motherangeline.org/your-tour>

After working at St. Peter's Hospital for 11 years, she began a new journey at Teresian House where she began many years ago as a sixth grade student. Jackie is well aware of Mother Angeline's vision and said it is a blessing for her to serve the elderly in her community.

New Congregational Leadership for the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm



In September 2020, the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm held their Fourteenth General Chapter and elected a new Leadership Team. Preparations started on November 1, 2019, with the gathering of elected delegates and forming of four Commissions on Community, Ministry, Spiritu-

Left to Right: Sister Marie Richard Carmel Brusca, O.Carm., Sister Maureen Theresa Murray, O.Carm., Sister Cyril Methodius Kasper, O.Carm., Mother Mary Rose Heery, O.Carm., Sister Jeanne Francis Haley, O.Carm., Sister M. Peter Lillian DiMaria, O.Carm., and Sister M. Veronica Robert Bien

Resident Corner *Carmel Terrace*



Carmel Terrace Independent and Assisted Living Home is situated on 27 beautifully groomed acres on Central St in Framingham, Massachusetts. The original inspiration in 1929 of our Foundress, Mother Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory, was of preserving the spirit among the elderly by showing them great hospitality, compassion, and dignity, and would eventually become the cornerstone of the assisted living philosophy.

We have 62 apartments on three levels of elegantly designed floors, with two elevators to assist residents up and down among the floors for various occupations. Our Chapel, where we have Mass six days a week is the heart of our Home. We were able to restart Mass on July 16 the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. What a happy and blessed Feast Day it was for all of us.

Some of our residents, who like to stay active and involved in their com-

munity, volunteer their services where their interests lie. We are blessed to have four gracious residents who volunteer daily in the Chapel preparing for Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. We have a Country Kitchen where they can cook or bake if desired and Social Nooks for doing their laundry, if they prefer to do it themselves. Elegant meals are served in our main dining room three times daily. We are blessed to have an outdoor courtyard, which is lovely and available all year long for walking, exercising, reading, or taking a snooze outdoors depending upon the season.

Social Opportunities Activities including exercise and entertainment via Zoom are frequent and diverse. The opportunities to come together, in this odd time of Covid-19, have been curtailed but not eliminated. Sometimes individuals will go to other's apartments and visit or come together most any place to converse and share

family tidbits. We also offer Google Hub Nests for residents with Wi-Fi, to connect with their loved ones at any time and see them, since visits in this pandemic time are limited. If someone does not have Wi-Fi, we arrange special Zoom sessions with Social Opportunities and their families. No one is left behind!

We have a wonderful and available Team of Directors faithful and kind staff; all help direct and orientate new residents and are there for them 24/7. With very little turnover residents truly feel they are in safe and kind hands for whatever life throws them. Sister Catherine is there for any need: joyful, frustrating, or sad. We are all there for our residents and all their needs: physical, mental, social, spiritual, and emotional, just as our Foundress Mother Angeline taught and inspired us.

Top photos: Sr. Catherine Angeline, O.Carm. with a residents and Carmel Terrace exterior

ality, Vocations and Formation, and Government and Finance. Very Rev. Mario Esposito, O.Carm. joined the delegates as Chapter Facilitator.

During the final week of the 14th General Chapter, the elections of the General Council were completed. The Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm are happy to announce

the following results: Mother Mary Rose Heery, O.Carm. as Prioress General, Sister Jeanne Francis Haley, O.Carm. as First Councillor/ Vicar-General, Sister Cyril Methodius Kasper, O.Carm. as Second Councillor, Sister Maureen Theresa Murray, O.Carm. as Third Councillor, Sister M. Peter Lillian Angeline DiMaria,

O.Carm. as Fourth Councillor, Sister Marie Richard Carmel Brusca, O.Carm. as Secretary General, and Sister M. Veronica Robert Bien as Treasurer General.

Congratulations to the new Congregational Leadership - God's blessings for the future!

CARMELITE SISTERS
FOR THE AGED AND INFIRM
ST. TERESA'S MOTHERHOUSE
AVILA ON THE HUDSON
600 WOODS ROAD
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The Cause and Charism Commission Welcomes a New Member as Two Members Complete Their Nine-Year Terms

Please join us in welcoming our new Cause and Charism Commission member, Sr. M. Francis Patrick Casey, O.Carm. who is assigned to St. Teresa's Motherhouse. Sr. Francis Patrick previously served on the Commission from 2000 to 2009. She is eager to become involved and to assist in advancing Mother Angeline's Cause once again.

The Cause and Charism Commission would like to thank Sr. Helena of Mary and Janice Smircich for their nine-year terms. Sr. Helena was a contributor to the Publications/The Mother Angeline Society Sub-Committee who worked tirelessly to promote the Cause on the internet. Sr. Helena was responsible for posting new material to the Mother Angeline website, Friends of Mother Angeline Facebook page, and the Mother Angeline Instagram site. She compiled and presented summary reports of views and visits to all these sites to the Cause and Charism Commission members. Sr. Helena supplied explanation of the collected information to show which material was most effective in reaching the most people on the World Wide Web.

Janice Smircich completed a term on the Education/Promotion Sub-Committee. Janice worked on the annual seminarian mailing which reached nearly 2000 seminarians across the country in the past nine years. She also gave a number of presentations on Mother Angeline and wrote articles for The Mother Angeline



Sr. Patricia Margaret receiving a gift of appreciation from the Commission presented by Fr. Mario.

Society bulletin. While teaching at Holy Cross School in Albany, NY, Janice chaperoned class retreats to the Carmelite Sisters Motherhouse, raising her students' awareness of Mother Angeline. Janice also served on the Commission previously from 1997-2008. Our heartfelt thanks go to these Commission members for their genuine dedication and commitment to promoting Mother Angeline's Cause.

Commission Chair and Commission Liaison positions reflect some change. Sr. Maureen Murray will fill the position of Council Liaison. Sr. Patricia Margaret Rawdon (Liaison since 2009) will remain on the Commission as Commission Chair. Sr. Kevin Patricia, who has been on the Commission since 1997, held this position and she will remain as a Cause and Charism Commission member.