

in a Word™

A Publication of The Society of the Divine Word, Southern Province

Volume 37 No. 1 September 2018

Sisters of the Holy Family
celebrate 175 years

Photo by Father James Pawlicki, SVD

WHO ARE THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission as Sisters of the Holy Family, an African American Congregation, is to proclaim the Gospel message of Jesus Christ by living the consecrated life.

We exemplify and share the spirituality and charism of Henriette Delille with the people of God. We bring healing comfort to children, the elderly, the poor, and the powerless, especially those of African descent.

As we embrace the third millennium, our love for God compels us to confront racism, all forms of injustice, discrimination, and economic oppression through evangelization and education.

Our leadership in parish ministry and social outreach promotes family life for the well being of the church and society by fidelity of Christian faith and morals.

CHARISM

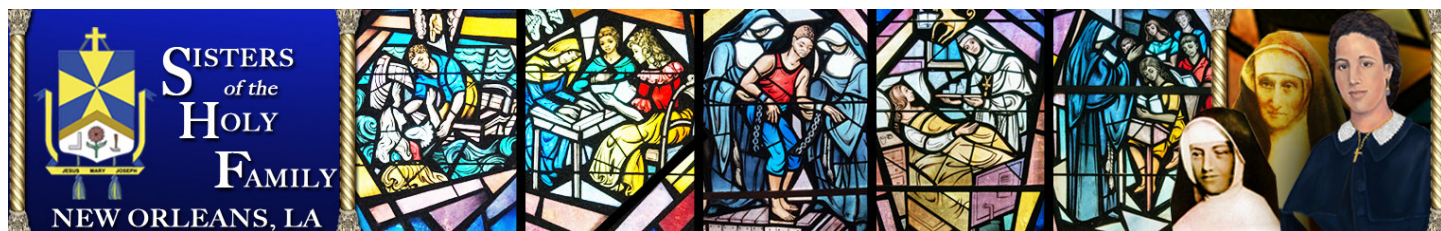
The charism of the Sisters of the Holy Family, true to the divine inspiration of our foundress, Henriette Delille, is to be a prophetic witness in proclaiming the Gospel message of compassion, liberation, healing, and empowerment to all peoples with a preferential love for the poor and the powerless.

SPIRITUALITY

We, Sisters of the Holy Family, always dependent on Divine Providence, are empowered by the Spirit of God and sustained by the Eucharist and the Word of God.

We live in community with one heart and one mind as consecrated women with perpetuity of commitment by vow to chastity, poverty, and obedience

In the spirit of our saintly foundress, Henriette Delille, we seek the will of God through daily prayer and model our lives on the example and teaching of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.





We, the Sisters of the Holy Family of New Orleans, LA, gathered in solemn assembly at our 15th General Chapter of 2018, dedicate ourselves to witnessing God's transformational love by confronting all forms of injustice and bringing healing comfort to the most vulnerable and powerless of society.

We believe in the dignity and worth of all people because each person is created in the image and likeness of God. We value the sacredness of human life from conception to natural death and maintain an attitude of welcome and loving hospitality to all. We uphold the inviolability of the human family, the bedrock on which society is built. If we, or any nation, are to survive, the family must be protected and preserved.

We pledge to faithfully continue the legacy of Venerable Henriette Delille, our beloved foundress, by joining with others in confronting the social ills of our time.

We denounce **Racism** in all its forms.

We denounce **abuse of women**.

We denounce **all violence**, especially the repeated **violence against African American males**.

We denounce **human trafficking**.

We denounce **unjust incarceration**.

We denounce all policies which **treat immigrants inhumanly**.

We denounce the **lack of a secure healthcare system for the economically disadvantaged sick and elderly**.

We denounce **unfair housing practices**.

We denounce **inequitable employment practices**.

We denounce the **abuse of our common home, Mother Earth**.

Deeply rooted in our life of faith, hope and love, we pray and stand firmly today as a welcoming sign of God's love, healing, refuge, and hope. For in the name of God and Venerable Henriette Delille, we can do no less.

We call on all to participate individually and collectively with an organized group to eradicate the social ills of our day, beginning with the most urgent ones calling for our attention and not stopping until we can say with full voice and heart, "We are 'one nation under God with liberty and justice for all.'"

Sr. Joan Marie Alexander, Sr. Regina Amos, Sr. Magdalene Antoine, Sr. Concetta Augustine, Sr. Benjamin Auzenne, Sr. Rosalind L. Barbeneaux, Sr. Mary Francis Bard, Sr. Judith Therese Barial, Sr. Carmen Marie Bertrand, Sr. Jacinta Blanchard, Sr. Marie de Montfort Breaux, Sr. Leona Bruner, Sr. Rebecca Castillo, Sr. Joseph Ellen Cavalier, Sr. Daniel Cooper, Sr. Romuald Cormier, Sr. Alicia Costa, Sr. Hilary Daigle, Sr. Richard Francis Daigle, Sr. Rita Darensbourg, Sr. Andria Marie Donald, Sr. de Ricci Egby, Sr. Joan Flores, Sr. Hortensia Maria Flowers, Sr. Josephine Francisco, Sr. Joseph Ann Gillette, Sr. Maria Gonzales, Sr. Doris Goudeaux, Sr. Patricia Hardy, Sr. Germaine Henry, Sr. Rose Fatima Henry, Sr. Elizabeth Ann Holmes, Sr. Clara Jackson, Sr. Cynthia Marie Jackson, Sr. Francella Jackson, Sr. John Mary Jackson, Sr. Geneva James, Sr. Sarah Cecile James, Sr. Marie Elizabeth Jerry, Sr. Edna Mae Jones, Sr. Jennie Jones, Sr. Theresa Sue Joseph, Sr. Greta Jupiter, Sr. Marian Perpetua LaCroix, Sr. Veronica Ruth Lambey, Sr. Stephanie Marie Langston, Sr. Canice Lastrapes, Sr. Henriette Lazare, Sr. Carolyn Leslie, Sr. Gloria Lewis, Sr. Angela Merici Luis, Sr. Philomena Malveaux, Sr. Jean Martinez, Sr. Ann Michelle Mercier, Sr. Laura Mercier, Sr. Josita Marie Ogaldez, Sr. Laurita Oliver, Sr. Elma Olivera, Sr. Alma Marie Orji, Sr. Clare of Assisi Pierre, Sr. Bertha Pierre-August, Sr. Frances Therese Remi, Sr. Charlotte Rubit, Sr. Maria Consilia Saizan, Sr. Beulah Marie Sam, Sr. Agnes Marie Sampia, Sr. Angela Smith, Sr. Ann Elise Sonnier, Sr. Lucille Stelly, Sr. Marie Antoinette Sylvester, Sr. Sylvia Thibodeaux, Sr. Frances Cabrini Turnbull, Sr. Sylvia Vallet, Sr. Tekakwitha Vega, Sr. Rachael Williams, Sr. Sheila Marie Williams, Sr. Innocente Wiltz



in a word or two



APOLOGIES

As many of our faithful readers have noticed there have been no issues of IN A WORD for some time. We apologize for this time away.

With this issue we begin anew and focus on the Sisters of the Holy Family.

The Sisters recently celebrated their 175th anniversary as a religious congregation. The dedication they have shown over these 175 years is impressive. Unfortunately, not enough attention is given to their accomplishments in the spirit of their foundress the Venerable Henriette Delille. The photos on this page speak to the joyful celebration held in Saint Louis Cathedral in New Orleans and the banquet that followed.

On page 2 the Mission, Charism and Spirituality of the Sisters are noted. They have been faithful to these values for 175 years!

The Sisters continue to this day to combat social ills. The Declaration of the Sisters found on page 3 and signed by all the Sisters is noteworthy. The Sisters are not afraid to speak out!

Finally, the front cover shows how much people appreciate and love the Sisters. The photo was taken at a recent Jubilee celebration of 6 Sisters.

That photo conveys the love we have here at IN A WORD for all the Sisters have done and are doing today.

God bless the Sisters of the Holy Family!

Divine Word Missionaries is an international missionary community of over 7,000 brothers and priests. In 1905 the SVDs began working among African Americans in the Southern United States. Today, Divine Word Missionaries work in over 35 parishes in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas and Arkansas.
IN A WORD is a publication of The Society of the Divine Word's Media Production Center. Rev. James Pawlicki, S.V.D., Director and Editor; Cathy Green-Miner, office manager; Father Brendan Murphy, SVD consultant.
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IN A WORD is not published during July and August.
Web page can be found at <http://www.inaword.com>