



Hospital Sisters of St. Francis

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June 9, 2025

Circular Letter #11

Subject: 150 Days of Celebration of our
150th Anniversary in the USA

***"The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understand what is said, alleluia."
Wisdom 1:7***

Dear Sisters and Associates,

As the Church celebrated the Solemnity of Pentecost, we are about to embark on a Spirit-filled journey for 150 days. As we continue our 150th anniversary celebration, we have been presented with a unique opportunity that will enhance our celebration.

The Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) has invited its members to find ways to enter into a deep experience of prayer, fasting, and advocacy in the upcoming months of the year. Mindful of our anniversary and our 20 founding Sisters who arrived in Alton, Illinois on November 6, 1875, we will embark on a 150-day journey from June 10-November 6, 2025, as we give thanks to our founding Sisters and recall their prayer, fasting, and advocacy.

Our 150 days will be designed with communal experiences when we gather for conversation as well as offering opportunities for private experiences. The gatherings in the Family Room will feature information in advance of a presentation by knowledgeable speakers on climate, immigration, healthcare, racism, and peace. Suggestions will be offered for private experiences on how you might engage in the fasting from negativity, technology, and favorite foods – all while embracing the gift of quiet and reflection.

We will be united with LCWR on July 15, the feast of Bonaventure and the founding of our Canonical House, and on August 11, the feast of St. Clare of Assisi.

We will conclude on November 6, 2025, with prayer, adoration, and benediction as we reflect on our 150 days of prayer, fasting, and advocacy in communion with the 150th anniversary of our Sisters' arrival. This gathering will include our guests from Germany, Poland, Japan, and India who will be with us for our celebration on November 7 and 8.

Information on the schedule will be shared soon.

In Francis and Clare,


Sister Maureen O'Connor, OSF
Superior