

# On Line and On Point

## MARY MOTHER OF JESUS INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

[marymotherofjesus.org](http://marymotherofjesus.org)

**SPEAKING**—For nearly two years now, I've been living in a place where the majority of my day is spent speaking a language that I did not grow up speaking. I have long admired people who can speak multiple languages, and I remember having deep respect for the Sister of Providence who entered the congregation with me and experienced her first three years of formation in the United States while still learning English. Communication across languages and cultures can be grueling. I have experienced my share of miscommunications and disconnects during the last two years. Each snafu has taught me something.

I'll never forget the moment when I offered to pass my housemate the salad at the dinner table, and she held up her arm with the back of her hand facing me. In my culture, I could only imagine she was threatening to slap me with the back of her hand. "It's only salad!" I thought. On the contrary, in Mexico, this gesture means "No, thank you," which my housemate kindly explained to me when she saw my wide-eyed reaction.

Perhaps part of the miracle of what happened in that upper room at Pentecost is just this: the fact that people leaned in to understand what they could of one another. They read body language and context and could feel one another's energy in a way that didn't require words.

I experienced just such a Pentecostal moment last week when I learned that a migrant who had been waiting for asylum in Nogales, Sonora, for over a year would soon be paroled into the U.S.

When I saw her at the Kino Border Initiative migrant aid center, I clasped her arm and the words flew out of my mouth: "Next Monday!" Without thinking, I had spoken to her in English, but her response made it clear that she knew exactly what I was talking about. Her tears flowed and my heart swelled. Maybe speaking in tongues means that the Holy Spirit moves us to



accept the pieces we don't understand so as to embrace the essence of another person. Maybe we speak in tongues when we find the goodness in another's eyes, when we can imagine someone who irks us as their vulnerable infant selves, when we stop speaking so an unconventional voice can be heard.

I'm willing to bet the apostles in the Upper Room would agree that speaking in tongues doesn't mean understanding every word that another person says. It's the magic of seeing another person or being fully seen without needing the right words. It happens when we put down our defensiveness and our personal agenda because we want to hear someone else's heart and celebrate who they are.

Like the apostles in the Upper Room, we may not always understand, and sometimes it might take a mighty wind to inspire us. What matters is that we are "all together, in one place" (Acts 2:1), willing to let the Spirit do her work.—*Sr. Tracy Horan*

**CHOICE FILM**—How to describe Dorothy Day? Grandmother, anarchist, prophet, journalist, pacifist, saint? The FBI once considered her a threat to national security. Now the Catholic

Church is considering her for sainthood.

**REVOLUTION OF THE HEART:** The Dorothy Day Story profiles one of the most extraordinary and courageous women in American history. She was co-founder (along with Peter Maurin) of the Catholic Worker Movement that began as a newspaper to expose rampant injustices

during the Great Depression. It soon expanded to become a network of houses of hospitality to welcome the poor and destitute.

Over the years, Dorothy Day developed her understanding of how to follow the Biblical challenge to be "peacemakers" by resisting all forms of military intervention. She protested America's involvement in World War II and was

### Mary Mother of Jesus Inclusive Catholic Community Mission Statement

We are a Christ-centered community of equals, consisting of women and men, ordained and non-ordained, empowered by the Spirit whose mission is to worship, to serve, to promote compassion, justice and care for creation. Come join us.

Send articles/info by Wed to be published on weekend: [rjbannerusa@gmail.com](mailto:rjbannerusa@gmail.com)

severely criticized. Day was arrested multiple times for protesting America's nuclear buildup and she led nationwide resistance against the war in Vietnam.

Now nearly a century after they began, the number of Catholic Worker houses continues to grow and the newspaper is still speaking truth to power.

REVOLUTION OF THE HEART includes rare archival photographs and film footage plus interviews with actor/activist Martin Sheen, public theologian Cornel West, popular author Joan Chittister, Jim Wallis of Sojourners, Robert Ellsberg of Orbis Books, granddaughters of Dorothy Day Kate and Martha Hennessy, Senator Timothy Kaine, NY Archbishop Timothy Dolan, Network's Simone Campbell, Jesuit Mark Massa, Paul Elie of Georgetown, and John Carr founder and director of the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University. REVOLUTION OF THE HEART was awarded the 2021 Gabriel Award for best Television Special/ Documentary. Martin Doblmeier, who directed and produced the documentary through his company Journey Films.

**OFFERINGS—** Thank you for your generosity. We are most grateful for your care and concern for our community. Please remember to make your regular donations to MMOJ by sending your check to MMOJ % St. Andrew UCC, 6908 Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL 34238. Again, tabulation of offerings and donations will be announced when they are received at St Andrew UCC. Remember: MMOJ continues to donate 5% of all offerings received each month to Outreach, and will continue to focus on current food and hunger issues of our surrounding communities.



**SCHOOL ENDS...HUNGER BEGINS—**This year, the Campaign Against Summer Hunger returns for its 8th year from April 1-May 15. Since the start of the campaign in 2014, we have known that when school ends, hunger begins for more than 40,000 children. But, as the pandemic stretches on, children continue to be significantly impacted by current-day challenges and uncertainties.

Nearly 50% of Sarasota County students and 100% of DeSoto County students rely on free and reduced meals at school. With summer school programs closed this summer, daily meals may

not be accessible. The summer months ahead present real challenges for the children of families struggling to put food on the table.

Hunger deprives children of more than just-food. Child hunger = serious health consequences as well as negative impacts on prospects for future success.

**Your gift during this campaign is critical to help provide the nutritious food boys and girls need to learn, grow, and thrive.** You can help us keep them full until fall.

All Faiths Food Bank's Campaign Against Summer Hunger has become our community's strongest line of defense against child hunger.

Through our partners and summer programs, we work hard to make sure children receive the help they need. **Child hunger is a problem we can solve together.**

**OUTREACH—**The current recipient of our offered financial support continues to be All Faiths Food Bank of Sarasota [AFFB]. AFFB is a member of Feeding America – a network of food banks across the country. One of its key objectives is to equitably serve agency partners who distribute food to those struggling with hunger. AFFB understands that hunger is a health issue and its mission is, "Together with our partners, we provide healthy solutions to end hunger in our community." Some recent statistics: 22.4 million pounds of food was distributed last year; 186 agencies and programs are part of our network; 18.4 million meals were distributed to children, families, seniors, veterans and those in crisis last year; 30,649 volunteer hours help us to carry out our mission in 2020.

**FUTURECHURCH—**TalkUP Tuesdays, this Tuesday at 12noon ET, join us for informal discussions of topics of importance to you! **SPECIAL:** Former Vatican Commission Appointee Marie Collins will join us this Tuesday talking about the newest Canon Law Penal Code and its potential for curbing Clergy Sex Abuse and its Coverup.

Bring your lunch, your cup of tea, or your evening snack as we talk together across geographical timezones! **TO SIGN UP** [futurechurch.org](http://futurechurch.org) and watch for program information to pass by on sliding visual.

**QUOTE—**"We have an historic opportunity for a great global healing and renewal. If we will accept the challenge of nonviolent activism with faith, courage and determination, we can bring this great vision of a world united in peace and harmony from a distant ideal into glowing reality."—*Coretta Scott King*