



Lil' Red Wagon

Official newsletter of
The **Julia Greeley** Guild

Third Issue 8.8.15

An Award Winner Shares ► Endow says its **Julia Greeley** Award is named for “an exceptionally holy woman whose virtuous life was a model of love and sacrifice” and goes to a woman who exemplifies such. Wagon is now privileged to have Suzie LaVelle, who received the award in 2007, share with our readers what an inspiration **Julia** has been for her:

*“When I received the **Julia Greeley** award through Endow, I was humbled to even have my name written next to hers. She may someday be a saint and I am far, far from such thought! But I could learn from her and try to follow her example.*

*“Like **Julia**, I too am a convert to Catholicism, and I believe I was called to the church by the Lord to be able to do what He had in mind for me. I have been blessed to help build and now care for the Memorial Wall for the Unborn at Sacred Heart of Mary Church in Boulder, where we have buried the remains of thousands of aborted babies from a local abortion clinic. I meet with women who have had abortions and walk with them on the path to true healing: healing that only Jesus can give.*

*“I quickly found that to be able to do this work, I needed the Eucharist even more so for strength and direction and become a daily communicant. But I often think about **Julia’s** great devotion to the Eucharist and how she would not eat a thing until lunchtime after consuming Our Lord. What a beautiful witness of loving the Lord in the Eucharist! What a challenge she gives to me as I receive Jesus daily!*

*“May I learn to love as **Julia** loved and give all of myself to others as she did; and like **Julia**, do it all for the love of the Sacred Heart.”*

New Coffey Book ► “The sanctity of her life can never become uninteresting, irrelevant, or unimportant.” This is a quote from Paul Hallett, a *Denver Catholic Register* reporter, in Kathy Coffey’s new book *When the Saints Came Marching In*. Kathy has a wonderful chapter about **Julia**, with examples of her generosity and love on her journey to sanctity.



Fr. Blaine and Capuchin postulants

Capuchin postulants on Pilgrimage ► Fr. Blaine took the Capuchin postulants, six of whom are entering the novitiate this summer, on a pilgrimage Mar. 27 to 18 sites connected with **Julia** and her life. This photo is in front of the former Jesuit residence at Sacred Heart Church, 28th and Larimer, where **Julia** occasionally cooked for the Jesuits.



Annual Mass ► About 75 Friends attended the third annual **Julia Greeley** Mass of the Sacred Heart on June 5, 2015 (the Friday nearest her June 7 anniversary of death). Fr. Simon Kalonga, pastor of Cure d' Ars Church, who presided and homilized, invited all who were interested in honoring **Julia** to learn more about her story and mission. The Joyful Noise Choir from Cure d' Ars Parish sang its beautiful and uplifting songs. The Mass was held at Sacred Heart Church, 2760 Larimer Street, Denver, CO 80205 at 7:00 p.m. with a reception following, sponsored by the women of Endow.



Cure d' Ars' Joyful Noise Choir

Julia Greeley Scholarships ► The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of St. Peter Claver (which for 20 years has been granting scholarships) awarded four \$1,750 college scholarships this year to high school graduating young women and men who have embraced the spirit of **Julie Greeley**. The awards were given Sunday, June 28 at Cure d' Ars Parish Center.

The recipients were Zhanique Hatch-Jackson, Ahayna Yon, Jazzmon Key and Samaria Stovall. **Julia Greeley** is working for us as we honor the youth, especially those in need.

Julia Moves to Curé d'Ars ► The Guild recently reorganized itself by dissolving its incorporated status and inserting itself into the welcoming embrace of Curé d'Ars parish, where it will continue to do all it has been doing, but now as a parish ministry of Curé d'Ars parish. Doing so will enable us to have a much larger organization interested in our endurance into the future and allows our donors to claim tax credits for gifts made to the Guild, without any need on our part to apply for a separate tax exemption. This will eventually involve our changing some of our ways of doing business, and further information will be forthcoming as the changes are made. For now, however, we thank Fr. Simon Kilonga and his pastoral and financial councils for extending to us a very warm welcome. Thanks also to Attorney John Carver who assisted us in dissolving the corporation.

From *In Secret Service* ... ► “I went to old Sacred Heart School and Church ... and on my way to either place, I would meet **Julia** pulling a little red wagon loaded with clothes that she had collected... She never seemed to use any of the clothes for herself. The old clothes she wore were always the same. God must have loved her greatly, because in her poverty she was always happy, seeking only to help others whom she considered less fortunate than herself.” – Chief Judge Neil Horan, Sept. 15, 1978.

Why the Wagon ► **Julia Greeley (JG)** used her wagon to deliver food, clothing, and fuel to the poor, often secretly. Her Guild's wagon is meant to openly deliver news of the spread of her fame and to encourage her friends to introduce her to new friends. For example, you

can help us grow our mailing list by sending us email addresses of friends who would like to receive the *Wagon*.

Denver History ► Phil Goodstein's latest book, *Curtis Park, Five Points and Beyond*, devoted several paragraphs (pp. 114-116) to **Julia's** story.



Julia Greeley Home ► The Home was opened for single homeless women. The purpose of the home is to take these women “off the street” and prepare them to reenter society productively. Fr. Regis Scanlon, who began the program, put it under the patronage of **Julia Greeley**, because of the countless hours she spent on the street caring for the poor and, at least once sleeping in a friend's barn. The Home, which was first opened in Arvada, has been relocated to a building in Lakewood which is a larger facility. Learn more at:

<http://www.juliagreelevhome.org>

Guild Meetings ► The Guild meets at Cure d'Arms Parish Center, 4701 Martin Luther King Blvd. (just west of the church). The next planning meeting, open to all of **Julia's** friends, will be Thursday, Sept. 10, 2015, at 10:30 a.m. (ring the doorbell).

Kevin Knight Interviewed ► Our Guild Secretary was interviewed by the Denver Catholic issue for May 9-15, 2015. NewAdvent.org, which Kevin launched after World Youth Day in 1993, is a Catholic

“supersite,” which made the 2015 listings of the top 300 Christian Blogs for Ministry (churchrelevance.com).

Drawings of Julia ► Donna Auguste commissioned artist Jamian Ajamu Jacobs to make eight drawings based on the various episodes involving **JG** as mentioned in *In Secret Service...* With Donna's permission, we present one of them, “Rosary,” in this issue and will present others from time to time



Julia's Love for the Rosary ► In a 1939 article in the *Denver Catholic Register*, titled “Sainly Negress Nurse to Little White Angel,” **Julia** is said to have been so anxious for her little charge to be a practical Catholic that she placed a rosary in the baby's little fingers and, at four months old, tried very hard to teach her to pray. The little baby, Marjorie, was the daughter of George and Agnes Urquhart. **Julia** went every day to care for the child. The only picture we have of **Julia** is the one in which she is holding Marjorie at seven months old. Notice the white rosary in Marjorie's hand on the next page.



Julia Greeley Anniversaries ▶

Feb. 24: **Julia** received into the Secular Franciscans as Sr. Elizabeth (1901).

Jun. 7: **Julia** died (1918).

Jun. 26: **Julia** joined Catholic Church (1880).

Aug. 1: First meeting of **JG** Guild (2011).

In Secret Service of the Sacred Heart ▶

Available at: Gerkens, John Erger's Religious Goods stores, Tattered Cover, The Book Bar on Tennyson, Capuchin Franciscans' Provincial office, and the Archdiocesan Office for Black Catholic Ministry. Only a few copies are left.

National Attention ▶ The National Black Catholic Congress has become one of **Julia's** friends by posting "**Julia Greeley**: Denver Sainly Woman" on its web site at <http://www.nbccongress.org/Spotlight/Julia-greeley.asp>

Memberships ▶ Help us build our Guild membership by joining the **Julia Greeley Guild** and inviting others to join. A membership

application form can be printed at <http://www.juliagreeley.org/guild.html>

Testimonials Wanted ▶ The Guild is anxious to have on file reports of any favors you feel you have received through Julia's intercession! Lest any details be forgotten, please submit them in writing to **Julia Greeley** Guild.

Information ▶ For more on **Julia** and her fame, visit the Guild's web site at <http://www.juliagreeley.org>. Enjoy there a short video about **Julia** made by Channel 9 News in February of 2013.

Corporation Officers ▶

Mary Leisring, President

Kevin Knight, Secretary

Linda Chase, Treasurer

Fr. Simon Kalonga , Board Member

Fr. Blaine Burkey, O.F.M.Cap., Board Member

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Wagoneers ▶ Genie Amata and Maria Small, co-editors; Fr. Blaine Burkey, O.F.M.Cap., *consultant*; Mary Leisring, *circulation manager*