



Lil' Red Wagon

official newsletter of
The Julia Greeley Guild
ministry of
Curé d'Ars Church, Denver

Fifth Issue 1.25.16

Mercy Chose Me ► A full house of 450 people attended the Jan. 23 archdiocesan conference on the Jubilee Year of Mercy at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Northglenn CO. Following a celebration of the Eucharist and a continental breakfast, the conference began with a spirited presentation by Augustine Institute's Dr. Ted Szi on the relationship of the Year of Mercy to the New Evangelization and ended with another by Fr. John Ignatius on ways of practicing mercy in the here and now. The centerpiece of the conference, however, was the celebration of **Julia Greeley** as the Archdiocese's Model of Mercy for the Holy Year.

Model of Mercy ► The **Greeley** segment of the day began with the presentation of "**Julia Greeley**—Our Model of Mercy," a 9.25 minute video overview of her life. Prepared by Andrew Wright, the video brought together input by Deacon Clarence McDavid, Mary Leisring, and Fr. Blaine Burkey, interspersed with film of Julia Greeley, portrayed by actress Sonshonae Tull, pulling a mercy-laden red wagon through back alleys and moving about the interior of Sacred Heart Church. The video will soon be

Mercy Chose Me: Fully Living the Jubilee Year

posted on the archdiocesan web site at <http://www.archden.org/mercy> Meanwhile it can be located at <https://vimeo.com/151101683>

Panel of Julia Devotees ► After the video, Chancellor David Uebbing, emcee for the day posed a number of questions about **Julia** to our president Mary Leisring, treasurer Linda Chase, and board member Fr. Blaine Burkey. He asked each how and where they first became aware of **Julia Greeley**, then how each felt the Sacred Heart influenced **Julia**'s spirituality; and which story of her stands out as teaching us how to be emissaries of Mercy. Their answers were not recorded, but perhaps a future *Wagon* may get each of them to re-answer the questions.

A Question of Miracles ► Following Uebbing's questions, someone in the audience asked if there have been any miracles recorded as worked through **Julia**'s intercession. Thinking only of the type of miracle required for a canonization process, Fr. Blaine immediately answered in the negative, but added that there was no need for them until **Julia** might first be judged as having practiced the virtues heroically. Fr. Blaine later wished he had answered differently, since there have been countless people over the past 98 years who have believed that they received various favors through the intercession of **Julia Greeley**, and the Guild strongly desires that anyone who has received such favors show their appreciation for her intercession by informing the Guild in detailed writing of the favors received.

"Angel of Charity," the Image ► Following the panel discussion, Chancellor Uebbing unveiled the sacred image which the archdiocese had commissioned world-known icon writer Vivian Imbruglia to prepare for **Julia**'s installation as Denver's Model of Mercy for the

Jubilee Holy Year. This sacred image will be mounted in the archdiocesan curia at the John Paul II Center for the New Evangelization and reproduced on holy cards and other promotional pieces. Based on the sole photographic image of Julia (holding Marjorie Ann Urquhart) taken by Fr. William W. Ryan in 1916, the new two by three foot image, allows her whole face to show, placing her before the Rockie Mountains surmounted by an image of Christ's Sacred Heart. A shield at the base proclaims her "Angel of Charity" and symbolizes her membership in the Secular Franciscans, her devotion to the local firemen, and her signature wagonneering for mercy.



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Guild Table Well Visited ► When the conference was not in session, a number of booths provided information on ways of promoting the works of mercy. The **Julia Greeley** Guild had a table which it shared with

the **Julia Greeley** Home, and the booth was constantly surrounded by people interested in knowing more about our patroness. Besides selling 15 copies of our book, we also gathered email addresses of about 50 folk interested in receiving the *Wagon* and other Guild releases and passed out literature to even more who were interested in the upcoming bus pilgrimage.

Julia in Rome ? ► Details are still scarce, but an archdiocesan pilgrimage to Italy being planned for September early on spoke of "concluding with the Witnesses to the Power of Mercy conference on Sept. 24 in Rome, featuring **Julia Greeley** and others."

The Next Big Event

Moving in Julia's World ► The Guild's next big event is the "Walking in Julia's Footsteps" bus pilgrimage, scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 21. Just three weeks away, the outing will ride by numerous sites which **Julia** frequented and actually visit a handful of them. **Spire Media on Walnut St. has again agreed to have us spend some time in its building, where Julia boarded for about nine years.** The pilgrimage will provide insights into why the archdiocese chose **Julia** as its local model for the Year of Mercy, and will seek her intercession in entering more fully into the spirit of the Jubilee. A 50-passenger charter bus will leave Capuchin headquarters at 3613 Wyandot, Denver, at 1 p.m. and return at about 4 p.m. Cost of the fund-raising event, co-sponsored by the Guild and the Capuchin Franciscans will be \$65 per person. Reservations for the event are going fast, so hasten to sign up at www.capuchins.org

Reservations Going Fast

New Date for Annual Mass ► The fourth annual **Julia Greeley** Mass of the Sacred Heart will be held June 10, 2016 (the Friday nearest her June 7 anniversary of death). **Please note that this is not the date mentioned in previous**

Wagons. Fr. Scott Bailey, secretary to the archbishop, will be main celebrant and homilist; and The Joyful Noise from Curé d’Ars parish will once again provide musical accompaniment. The Mass will be at Sacred Heart Church, 2760 Larimer Street, Denver, CO at 7:00 p.m. with a reception following, sponsored by the women of Endow.



In Secret Service of the Sacred Heart ► A slightly-revised second printing of our study of **Julia** came off the press just before Christmas. It contains an update on precisely which of Julia’s eyes was destroyed by the slave master and copies of several of Jamian Ajamu Jacobs’ drawing of various episodes of Julia’s life. Each printing has been for 1,000 books.

From In Secret Service... ►

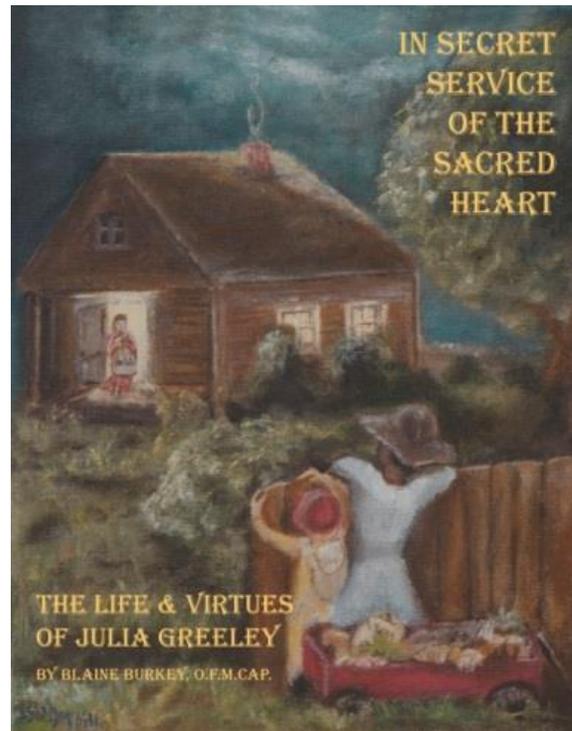


Sr. M. Irene Lally
SCL

“When I was a small girl I saw **Black Julia** many times in the church praying. She went out on the street with gunny sacks filled with wood, coal, clothes and food and medicine and would make her rounds to the desperately poor for whom no one else provided. She took care of and administered what supplies she could beg for them. Policemen and firemen would give donations to her and recommend her wherever she went because she was taking care of the forgotten poor. She, in turn,

provided them with Sacred Heart badges and medals for those with whom they came in contact. Sister M. Irene doesn’t know where **Black Julia** stayed because people always saw her in the church or on the streets delivering things to the poor.”

–Sr. M. Irene Lally, SCL, May 6, 1974



Our Vendors ► Besides our own web site at www.juliagreeley.org and the Capuchins’ site at www.capuchis.org, one can also find our book at the following locations:

Archdiocesan Black Catholic Ministry Office
Gerkens Religious Goods, Denver
John Ergers Religious Goods, Denver
Cabrini Shrine, Golden
Thomas More Parish Gift Shop, Centennial
The Book Bar, Tennyson St., Denver

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 donkey barn. The Home, which was first opened in Arvada, has been recently relocated to a larger facility. Learn more at:

<http://www.juliagreeleyhome.org>

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*. Consider setting yourself a goal of introducing two new people a week to **Julia Greeley**. Conversation starter: "Have you ever heard of **Julia Greeley**?"

Memberships ► Also help us build our Guild paid 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>

Guild Meetings ► The Guild meets at Cure d' Ars Parish Center, 4701 Martin Luther King Blvd. (just west of the church). The next planning meetings, open to all of **Julia's** friends, will be Mar. 17 and May 19, at 10:30 a.m. (ring the doorbell).

Add to Your Own Calendar ►

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).

Not Far Away ► It is now less than 29 months till the centennial celebration of **Julia's** death on June 7, 1918. Suggestions on how to celebrate this great event will be welcomed by the Guild officers..

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.

Guild Officers ►

Mary Leisring, President

Kevin Knight, Secretary

Linda Chase, Treasurer

Fr. Simon Kalonga, Board Member

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

Contacting Us ►

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