



## Lil' Red Wagon

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

**Seventh Issue 05-25-2016**

### Don't Miss Year's Biggest Event ►

The 4th annual **Julia Greeley Mass of the Sacred Heart** will be celebrated on **Friday, June 10**, the Friday nearest her June 7 anniversary of death.

Fr. Scott Bailey, secretary to Archbishop Aquila, will be main celebrant and homilist.

Show your interest in Julia Greeley and **make every effort to be there.**

The Mass will be at Sacred Heart Church, 2760 Larimer Street, Denver, CO at 7:00 p.m. with a reception following.



The Joyful Noise from Curé d'Ars parish will once again provide musical accompaniment.

A video of last year's Mass can be viewed at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KG4t\\_X4EYII](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KG4t_X4EYII).

**Julia's Year** ► The year 1918 is known in history especially for the end of World War I and the outbreak of the great Spanish influenza epidemic which killed over 30 million people.

To the Guild however, it was the year that **Julia Greeley**, to use her own expression, "entered the pearly gates."

The fabulous Hagiography Circle web site reveals that 25 people who died in the year 1918 (Julia's year) are being thought of as candidates for canonization. The Causes of 23 have already been opened; those of **Julia Greeley** and Anna Rose Macri have not.

The first to be opened was 10 years after death, and the latest 91 years. The average time after death for opening the Causes has been 58 years.

One of the 25, the U.S.'s own Mary Anne Cope, OSF, has been canonized, six others have been beatified, and four others declared venerable.

Two (the only martyrs among them) were beatified only four years after the opening of their Causes, and Mother Cope canonized after just 29 years.

Nine Sisters, 5 laymen, 4 laywomen, 3 diocesan priests, 1 religious priest, 1 religious seminarian, 1 bishop and 1 archbishop were in the group. Eight were Founders or Foundresses of religious communities, and 2 Secular Franciscans.

Nineteen were from Europe (Italy 8, Spain 4, Germany 2, Ukraine, Poland, Croatia, Portugal and France 1 each) and 6 from the rest of the world (U.S. 3, Uganda 2, Peru 1).

The holy ones who moved forward showed a better geographic spread: U.S., 1 saint, 1 venerable; Spain, 2 blessed, 1 venerable; Uganda, 2 blessed; Italy 1 blessed, 1 venerable; Germany 1 blessed, 1 venerable.

The one from Poland incidentally was a Capuchin Poor Clare, the Servant of God Sr. Mary of the Sacred Heart Lempicha, 1833-1918.

The other U.S. holy woman was Venerable Sr. Mary Theresa Dudzik, foundress of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, 1860-1918.

**Why the Delay with Julia?** ► One might wonder why **Julia's** Cause has still not been opened so long after her death.

Only God knows the full answer to that, but it is not hard to see some possible human roadblocks.

The delay could well be laid upon the not-so-subtle racism that inflicted the American Catholic Church during most of this time, putting black sanctity at the bottom of its agenda.

The Church in the U.S. did not have an openly black priest until 1886, and Fr. Tolton had to study in Rome because no U.S. seminary would accept him. The U.S. Church did not have an openly black bishop until 1965, nearly a half century after Julia's death. And there are still



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many black Catholics living who vividly remember being required to receive Communion after the white folks.

The question about the delay could also have been asked of the four Afro-American Causes which already have gone forward. The first of them was not opened till 71 years after **Julia's** death.

Venerable **Pierre Toussaint** died in 1853, and his Cause was opened 136 years later in 1989.

Venerable Mother **Henrietta DeVille** died in 1862, and her Cause was opened 142 years later in 2004.

The Servant of God Mother **Mary Elizabeth Lange** died in 1882, and her Cause was opened 115 years later in 1997.

The Servant of God Father **Augustus Tolton** died in 1897, and his Cause was opened 114 years later in 2011.

**Julia Greeley**, by comparison, has only been dead for 97 years.

Another possible reason for a delay in **Julia's** case could be the fact that, after Fr. Pacificus Kennedy finished his non-official interviews with surviving witnesses in the 1970s, people came to believe that a Cause had already been opened. It's a thought still widely held today..

### **Interview by Kathleen McCarthy** ►

Fr. Blaine discussed **Julia Greeley** and her cause with Kathleen McCarthy's "What the World Needs Now" on WTMR 800 AM, a Catholic radio ministry in the Philadelphia-New Jersey-Delaware area. Listen to the interview at <http://www.inhissign.com/podcastIHS.html>

**Sr. Mary Prudence** ► Please remember in prayer one of the Guild's founding Friends, Sr. Mary Prudence Allen RSM, who is at Alma MI recovering from brain surgery and hoping to return to her university chaplaincy at Manchester in England's Lake District.

**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."

**Put on Your Thinkin' Cap** ► It is now only 24 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.

**Holy Cards Now Available** ► The Guild recently printed two cards remembering **Julia**. One contains **Julia's** photograph, a short biography, and the prayer for her intercession; the other has the new icon and the prayer. One copy of each will be sent gratis to anyone sending the Guild a **self-addressed self-stamped** envelope. Multiple copies of either can be obtained for a small cost by special arrangement with the Guild.

**Add to Your Anniversaries Calendar** ►

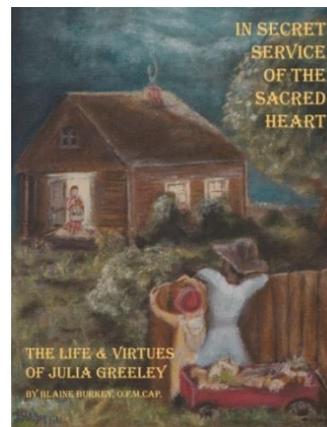
- Feb. 24: **Julia** received into the Secular Franciscans as Sr. Elizabeth (1901).
- Mar. 28: "In Secret Service..." published (2012).
- Apr. 5: Sr. Prudence Allen told an Archbishop's lecture audience **Julia Greeley** should be canonized (2011).
- Jun. 7: **Julia** died (1918).
- Jun. 26: **Julia** joined Catholic Church (1880).
- Aug. 1: First meeting of **JG** Guild (2011).
- Aug. 2: **Julia** gained Portiuncula indulgences at St. Elizabeth Church (annually)
- Nov. 17: **Julia's** nameday as Secular Franciscan (Feast of St. Elizabeth of Hungary)
- Nov. 17: First issue of the Lil' Red Wagon (2014)

**Volunteer Possibilities** ► The Guild really could use help in order to accomplish its mission. Here are some things volunteers could do to help Julia's cause – edit and publish the *Wagon* – work at increasing membership – build up our mailing list – where possible, replace postal addresses with email addresses – design and print cards, fliers, leaflets – greet people at Guild events – recruit vendors for the book – help keep vendors supplied – share your one's own imaginations

**Testimonials Needed** ► The Guild is anxious to have on file reports of any favors people feel they have received through **Julia's** intercession!

Lest any details be forgotten, please submit them in writing to the Guild. Having these on file will one day enable archdiocesan authorities to know there is a real interest in her cause.

**In Secret Service of the Sacred Heart** ► A slightly-revised second printing of the Guild's 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 introduces several of Jamian Ajamu Jacobs' drawing of various episodes of Julia's life. Each printing has been for 1,000 books.



**Book Vendors** ► Besides the Guild's own web site at [www.juliagreeley.org](http://www.juliagreeley.org) and the Capuchins' site at [www.capuchis.org](http://www.capuchis.org), one can also find the book on sale at the following locations:

- Archdiocesan Black Catholic Ministry Office
- The Book Bar, Tennyson St., Denver
- Cabrini Shrine, Golden
- Capuchin Provincial Offices, Denver
- Gerken's Religious Goods, Denver
- John Ergers Religious Goods, Denver
- Josephite Center, Baltimore
- Thomas More Parish Gift Shop, Centennial

**Excerpted from "In Secret Service..."** ►

"One of **Julia's** least known but kindest deeds was the surrender of her burial plot to a deceased elderly Negro. The ex-slave owned a lot at Mt. Olivet cemetery and had planned to use it as a last resting place, but, when word reached her that the remains of the old Colored gentleman, known by various names (but as "Uncle

Ambrose” to a few), were headed for a potter’s field, she insisted on giving up her plot. Her charity in this case was repaid by the silent tribute of the hundreds who attended her last rites.” – *Denver Catholic Register* 4-13-1939

**Keep the Wagon Rolling ► Julia Greeley**

Guild’s newsletter is meant to tell of the spread of her fame and to encourage her friends to introduce her to new friends. Help us grow our mailing list by sending us email addresses of friends who would like to receive the *Wagon*. Set yourself a goal of introducing two new people a week to **Julia Greeley**. Suggested conversation starter: “Have you ever heard of **Julia Greeley**?”

This issue of the *Wagon* is being sent to 353 Friends of **Julia** on the Guild list (an increase of 48% since Issue 3 in July of 2015). Feel free to forward the Issue to your own friends, and invite them to send the Guild their addresses to assure reception of future issues.

All previous issues of the *Wagon* are archived on the Guild web site at [www.juliagreeley.org](http://www.juliagreeley.org).

**Help Us Save Postage ►** If you received this newsletter by postal service, you could help us save money by sending the Guild your name and email address.

**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>

**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. To view the archdiocese’s video of “Julia Greeley: Our Model of Mercy” see <https://vimeo.com/151101683>.

**Guild Officers ►**

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