



## Lil' Red Wagon

of the Servant of God Julia Greeley

official newsletter of  
**The Julia Greeley Guild**  
 a ministry of  
 the Cathedral Basilica of the  
 Immaculate Conception, Denver

**Thirty-sixth Issue 9-12-2022**

## New York City Diocesan Priests Make Pilgrimage to Land of Julia Greeley

Led by Msgr. Raymond Roden, spiritual director of the Brooklyn diocesan seminary, the **first group pilgrimage ever** found its way to Julia's tomb in mid-July. Originally planned to include eight diocesan priests from the New York's Brooklyn area, the group was pared down to five by scheduling problems and Covid-19, but it still turned out to be a special high point in the history of Julia's Cause.

Many local members of the Julia Greeley Guild helped make the July 11-15 visit a joyous occasion for all.

The photo below shows Fr. Rafael J. Perez, pastor, Holy Family-St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Brooklyn; Fr. Daniel Kingsley, pastor, St. Clare Parish, Rosedale, Queens; Msgr. Ray P. Roden; . Fr. Bryan Patterson, rector, Brooklyn cathedral; and Fr. Wesbee Victor, graduate student of the Archdiocese of New York, along with Frs. Blaine Burkey and local pastor Fr. Joseph Cao at the Mass at Cure d'Ars parish on July 12.





The Mass was followed by a luncheon sponsored by Cure d'Arts parish, and catered by Guild members Sr. Marion Weinzapfel and Kate Springs.

The following day, using Annunciation Church's school bus, Fr. Blaine and Guild vicepresident Dustin Caldwell took the visitors on a bus pilgrimage to about 20 Denver sites connected with the life and death of the Servant of God.

High lights of the day were time spent in the building where Julia lived for over a

decade, Mass in Sacred Heart Church, and time spent with Julia's remains at the cathedral.

The third full day of their pilgrimage, the visiting priests visited the Office for Black Catholic Ministry and David Uebbing, the vice postulator of Julia's Cause; spent some time in St Elizabeth of Hungary Church, where Julia was active with the Secular Franciscans; and celebrated Mass in the cathedral.

Several local guild members and the visitors then had a pleasant supper sponsored by the Guild at Trattoria Stella at Colfax and Steele.





## **Bp. Jorge Leads Guild in Celebration of 104th Anniversary of Julia's Going to the Father ♥**

The Julia Greeley Guild celebrated its annual Mass remembering the 104th anniversary of the Servant of God's death, not on the day itself, but on the eve thereof.

Bishop Jorge Rodriguez was the main celebrant and homilist of the regularly scheduled 5:30 Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception on June 6.

Instead of Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart, used on previous anniversaries, the Bishop used the Mass for the Feast of Day, that of Mary, Mother of the Church, and he skillfully wove Julia Greeley into his homily as a model of Marylike adoptive motherhood of countless children to whom she ministered.

About 25 Guild members sat as a group on the left side of the transept, many wearing their Greeley stoles or Sacred Heart red



**Sr. Marion Weinzapfel, Frankie Rachell-Bruce, Mary Leisring and Ria de Dios.**

clothing; and after the Mass they had an informal flash "get together" near Julia's sarcophagus.



**Some of those attending the anniversary Mass (l. to r.): Raquel Bishop, Susanna Anderson, Angelita Sims, Frankie Rachell-Bruce, Dustin Caldwell, Debbie Wagner, Mary Leisring, Minnie Cassell, Susan Wroble, Sr. Marion Weinzapfel, Bishop Jorge Rodriguez, Elsie Dixon, Ria de Dios, Kateri Williams, Kate Springs, Sandra Harrison, Fr. Blaine Burkey, and Susanna Rodriguez-DeLeon.**

## Bishop Rodriguez' Homily for 104<sup>th</sup> Greeley Anniver- sary Mass, June 6, 2022 ♥

We are celebrating our annual appointment with Julia Greeley at the Cathedral.

In two weeks, our country will celebrate for the second time the Juneteenth National Independence Day, which commemorates the declaration in Galveston by Gen. Gordon in 1865 that *"The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property."*

For Julia, a girl or young woman that day, it meant the emancipation of slavery. She began to enjoy the "absolute equality of personal rights" that, up to that moment, was denied to her.

But that didn't mean for her to be out of a life of servitude and poverty. God "writes straight on crooked lines" and this event meant for Julia the beginning of a journey to the loving Heart of Jesus and to the Catholic Church.

Liturgically, today we celebrate the Memorial of Mary Mother of the Church.

The readings for this Memorial tie together two decisive moments in the history of salvation: the beginning of the history of salvation with the tragedy of the original sin and the first promise of salvation; and the



accomplishment of the history of salvation on the cross.

In both decisive events, we have the presence and tale of a woman. In the first one, Eve; in the second one, Mary. In the first one, Eve is called "the mother of all the living." In the second one, at the bottom of the Cross, Mary is given to all the disciples as their mother.

In the first story, Eve bears the promise of the savior. In the second one, Mary offers her son, the Promised Savior for the salvation of all her children.





*“When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.”*

Since that moment, Mary became the mother of all the Church’s children. And she has shown to be a mother for all, a mother of all peoples, races, and human conditions.

The words of the Servant of God Thea Bowman, “I feel like a Motherless child” ... Motherless children have a real hard time,” sadden us, because everyone should feel the Church as his or her mother, without exclusion.

A mother is the one who is always open to receiving all her children, understanding them, forgiving them, serving them when they come back from a long journey; the one who is able to continue loving even if her child doesn’t fit the expectations people have on them; she is the one with a heart big enough to love each child in a unique way without making distinctions, between a smart and a less smart one, a healthy one or one who is sick... a mother is the one who is able to spend entire nights at the bedside of her sick child. One who doesn’t judge her child but tries to understand why....

Are there still people around us that feel as motherless children in our Church?

In Kibeho, Rwanda, Mary appeared with the features of a black African woman and presented herself to Alphonsine Mumureke, a young student of the Kibeho High School, under the name of Mother of the Word. In Guadalupe she appeared with Aztec features, and told Juan Diego, an Aztec himself, that she was his mother and wanted a place to console and hear the prayers of all her children. In Lourdes, she appeared with Caucasian features, and in Akita with Japanese one.

She took the features of her children because she wanted all of them to see a

mother in her. All Catholics must know and experience that they have a mother in the Church and a mother in Mary. This is what we celebrate today liturgically, and we live in our daily lives.

But the message for us is to work hard to make our Church felt to be a Mother, where all of her children, independently of race, language or culture are loved as children and as brothers and sisters, and where race, language and cultural differences are embraced when we gather under the protective and loving care of our Mother, Mary. Under the loving mantle of Mary there is no room for racism, division, discrimination, or inequality. Under the protective and loving mantle of Mary we all discover ourselves to be children of God with the same dignity and rights.

The Servant of God, Julia Greeley who lost her mom at an early age, and who was never a biological mother herself, found in her heart the love and care children need and offered them in a life of service as a nanny, which inspires us to find ways to be, as a Church, the loving mother all need, with our openness, service, and sincere care for each other. May our Sister, Servant of God, Julia Greeley, who in 1865 experienced liberty for the first time, and found a Mother in the Church and in Mary, help us to be a Church where nobody feels

like a motherless child.



## Our Most Important Need ♥

Now that the archdiocesan phase of Julia's Cause for Canonization has been completed, taken to Rome, and approved, we might adopt the attitude that now the Cause is out of our hands, and there's nothing more for us to do but wait.

The Guild has not taken such an approach. We've been writing newsletters, selling books, and making presentations aimed at making Julia known in wider circles, and encouraging people to venerate her.

Hopefully the Church will also one day encourage our honoring her when it raises her state to that of Venerable.

But there is a further goal beyond just making Julia better known and venerated. We need to encourage people to form a relationship with Julia that witnesses to the intercessory power of her closeness to God.

Once Julia is declared a Venerable, the Church will look for proof that God attests to Julia's closeness by responding in clearly miraculous way to Julia's intercession.

The Guild's primary emphasis, therefore, must be moving our friends to invoke Julia's intercession powers by praying to her for our own needs and the needs of those we love, particularly in more seemingly hopeless situations.

We can do this in the words of the prayer suggested by Archbishop Aquila or in our own words. We can also take advantage of the helpline the Guild has established at Julia's Canoe at [juliascanoe@gmail.com](mailto:juliascanoe@gmail.com).

A most powerful ways in which we can encourage others to pray to Julia is by making known the ways in which Julia's intercession has helped us. That's why we keep emphasizing that we need to inform the Guild if we feel our life had been affected in any way by Julia's intercession, particularly if we think we might have experienced something miraculous for our own needs and those of others. Such reports need to be sent in writing to Julia Greeley Guild at

1535 N. Logan St., Denver CO 80203-1013 or [juliagreeleyguild@gmail.com](mailto:juliagreeleyguild@gmail.com). Those that appear to have no natural explanation will be turned over to the vice postulator for further investigation.

## A Prayer for Julia's Intercession ♥

Heavenly Father, your servant Julia Greeley dedicated her life to honoring the Sacred Heart of your Son and to the humble service of the poor. Grant me a generous heart like your Son's, and if it be in accordance with your holy will, please grant this favor I now ask through Julia's intercession (insert intercession)... I pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen. (This prayer was approved on June 29, 2017 by Most Rev. Samuel J. Aquila, Archbishop of Denver)

## Favors Thru Julia's Prayer ♥

...I moved from North New Jersey to South Jersey when the Covid disease was in full force...I was so distraught that my daughter had lost her job, her apartment, and her car. These caused her stomach to have serious issues. She didn't eat normally and lost a lot of weight (175 down to 123). I usually arrive early at Mass, and noticed several blessed men and women on banners throughout the church. My eye caught Julia Greeley. My daughter's initials are J.G. I immediately caught the connection of her initials with those of Julia Greeley, and began every Sunday visiting her banner and asking her to help me. I sent my daughter her photo and prayer. We had not been on a good relationship, and I couldn't sleep worrying on her behalf. One Sunday I noticed they had removed her banner. I was disappointed, but shortly after, on August 5, 2021, my daughter on her own will moved down to South Jersey with us. She is working a part time job. She gained weight, is eating normally and looks happy. I know Julia Greeley helped my daughter to make a decision to come live with us and start fresh. Thank you, Julia. May this story help you to be named a saint very soon.

**Irma C.**

...My husband was the assistant chief of our volunteer fire department a few years ago. He was diligently working on seeking vehicle donations so that the firefighters could practice extrication. He was having no response from the letters he sent out to various organizations. We invoked the intercession of Julia Greeley to help the firefighters obtain at least 12 vehicles for training. Over the course of the next year, our prayers were answered. Praise be to God and thank you Julia Greeley for your prayers!!!  
**-- Angela E.**

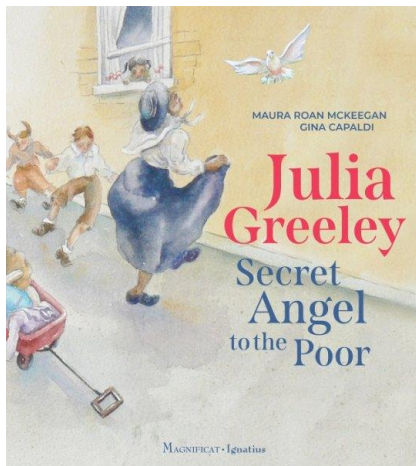
The book is illustrated by Gina Capaldi, who has won many awards for art work in other books.

Amazon, EWTN, Sunrise-Marian Distributors, and other are already taking pre-publication orders for the book, which is listed at \$15.99.



Ignatius Press, the publisher of book is offering it with on online 15% discount, at \$13.59 (at <https://ignatius.com/julia-greeley-6sdh/>)

## Childrens Book This Fall ♥



Maura McKeegan, author of numerous popular Catholic childrens books, has notified the Guild her hardback 40-page picture book about Julia Greeley, titled *Julia Greeley: Secret Angel to the Poor*, is scheduled for release on Oct. 10 by Ignatius-Magnificat publishers.

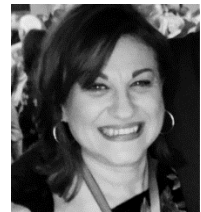


## BlackCatholicHistory.com ♥

The Guild recently had the opportunity to help BlackCatholicHistory.com check the accuracy of its new enrichment programs on Julia Greeley for kindergarden-elementary and high school students.

Founded in 2013 by Kaye Crawford of Austin TX, a graduate of the Institute of Black Catholic Studies at Xavier University in New Orleans, BlackCatholicHistory.com is an internationally taught enrichment program currently being used by more than 600 religion, history and literature teachers across the United States and in Uganda.

To learn how to become part of the BlackCatholicHistory.com family of schools, contact [kayecrawford@blackcatholichistory.com](mailto:kayecrawford@blackcatholichistory.com)



## Makers of Julia's Red Box ♥

A recent *Denver Catholic* article on the Neitenbach family that made caskets for the 62 Sisters of Loretto who were moved from Loretto Heights to Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Wheatridge, revealed that this was far from the first time Bryan and Luc Neitenbach "had been involved in a 'once-in-a-lifetime'

project like this. The Neitenbachs were responsible for the construction of Servant of God Julia Greeley's reliquary box, which was solemnly placed in the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception downtown in 2018 [actually 2017]. This is certainly an interesting additional connection between the sisters and Julia, since the Servant of God was one of the only people allowed in the room as Mother Pancratia of the Sisters of Loretto was on her deathbed."

## Julia in the Libraries ♥

The Guild has made no specific effort aimed at getting *In Secret Service* into libraries. A recent visit to Worldcat.org, however, showed the book has found its way into, not only the Denver Public Library, St. John Vianney Seminary Library, Regis University Library and St. Joseph Hospital Library, but also public libraries in Greeley and Colorado Springs, and libraries at Conception (MO) Seminary, the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Mt. St. Joseph University in Cincinnati, and Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus OH.. The little pamphlet, *A Hour with Julia Greeley*, travelled even farther: to West Virginia University at Parkersburg and the University of Marburg, Germany.

If your library is not listed, maybe you could suggest a new acquisition

## My Favorite Saints ♥

Asked who his favorite saints are, Novice Brother Anthony Long from the California Capuchin Province told *Caperone*, the novitiate newsletter, "Servant of God Julia Greeley and St. Maria Goretti."

## Sister Thea Documentary ♥

ABC stations are expected to air an hour-long documentary Oct. 2 on Servant of God Thea Bowman, the latest of the saintly six African-Americans. A preview of "Going Home Like a Shooting Star" can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tkzhnKG7mxo>

## Julia Presentations ♥

- ♥ St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Secular Franciscan Fraternity meeting at Cabrini Shrine, Golden CO, Sept. 10, Ria deDios & Essy Goffinett, 5 persons.
- ♥ Women's Ministry, St. Gianna Beretta Molla Church, Denver, Sept. 27, Ria deDios
- ♥ Howard University, Washington DC, ZOOM, date TBD, Mary Leisring
- ♥ Julia Greeley Committee at St. Matthew the Apostle Church, Gahanna OH, ZOOM, date TBD, Mary Leisring.

## Julia's Canoe Masses ♥

Intentions placed in Julia's Canoe, either by email or other forms of submission, are listed in a digital file constantly updated. In conjunction with the Guild, the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception celebrates monthly Masses for all in Julia's Canoe.

These are on the First Fridays of the month. A member of the Guild leads a prayer for Julia's intercession and the Litany of the Sacred Heart after the Mass near Julia's tomb in the Sacred Heart Chapel. Upcoming Masses will be on:

**Fri., October 7, 5:30 p.m.**

**Fri., November 4, 5:30 p.m.**

**Fri., December 2, 5:30 p.m.**

Place yourself and your intentions in Julia's Canoe at [juliascanoe@gmail.com](mailto:juliascanoe@gmail.com).



## Welcome to Our Meetings ♥

All Guild Members and other Friends of Julia are welcome at our planning meetings. During the pandemic, we meet by ZOOM every Third Thursday of the month at 10:30 a.m. MT. The coming meetings in 2022 will be on Sep 15, Oct 20, Nov 17, and Dec. 15. If you have not previously been to a meeting, you will need to contact us at 720-352-4995 to obtain the meeting ID number and password. ZOOM meetings have allowed friends of Julia to join us from anywhere on the planet. We've already enjoyed having friends from Perrineville NJ, Austin TX, Duluth and Minneapolis MN, Jefferson City MO, Brooklyn NY, and LaVegas NV join the Colorado faithful.

## Paid Memberships ♥

Help us build our **paid** membership by joining the **Julia Greeley Guild** and inviting others to join. A membership application form can be found and printed at our web site, <http://www.juliagreeley.org/guild.html>

**Dues are \$20 a year or \$50 for three**

## Guild Forebearers ♥

*honored posthumously*

**Msgr. Matthew Smith**

**Agnes Rooney Urquhart**

**Marjorie Ann Urquhart Simpson**

**Fr. Eugene Murphy, S.J.**

**Eleanor Pavella Castellan**

**Theodora O'Donnell Arnold**

**Fr. Pacificus Kennedy, O.F.M.**

## Honorary Life Members ♥

*honored while with us*

**Fr. Marcus Medrano**

**Mary Frances O'Sullivan**

**Sr. Mary Prudence Allen, R.S.M.**

**Fr. Gene Emrisek, O.F.M.Cap.**

**Linda Marie Skidmore Chase**



## Greeley Guild Galleria

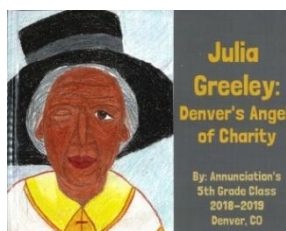
The Guild has a number of items available for purchase at its office at the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, 1525 N. Logan St., Denver CO 80203-1913. A check made out to "Cathedral Basilica" in the amount of the price of the item(s) wanted and the name and address, phone number, and email address of the purchaser should be accompanied by the item number and number of copies desired. Domestic shipping and sales tax will be paid for by the Guild. Quantity discounts and foreign shipping should be discussed ahead of time with the Guild at 720-352-4995.

Unless told otherwise, the Guild will subscribe free of charge all purchasers to *Julia's Lil Red Wagon*, the Guild's free newsletter you have in hand.



**Item JG-14 -- In Secret Service of the Sacred Heart: Remembering the Life and Virtues of Julia Greeley, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 168-page book by Fr. Blaine Burkey, O.F.M.Cap., bringing**

together everything of significance about Julia published between 1918 and 2021. -- \$22.00 a copy.



**Item JG-12 -- Julia Greeley: Denver's Angel of Charity, a full-color children-illustrated 17-page book, produced by Annunciation grade**

school's fifth-grade class, now in its second printing. -- \$15.00 a copy.



**Item JG-13 -- An Hour with Julia Greeley, a 24-page pamphlet by Fr. Blaine Burkey, O.F.M.Cap., provides an excellent brief and accessible overview of Julia's life and witness. -- \$2.00 a copy**



## Deceased Friends ♥

*we commend to Julia's intercession the eternal happiness of her deceased Guild Friends.*

**Geraldine Magnie**

**Elaine Massie**

**Hanna Nevin**

**Ginger Perkins**

**Wilmetta Ann Roth**

**Fr. Marcus Medrano**

**Joseph Staab**

**Patricia Lucille Deleon**

**Janie Smith**

**Charles Leisring**

**Fr. Regis Scanlon, O.F.M.Cap.**

## Our Officers ♥

Mary Leisring, President & Treasurer

Dustin Caldwell, Vice President

Kevin Knight, Secretary

Fr. Sam Morehead, Pastor

Fr. John James Arcidiacono, Liaison to  
Cathedral Staff

Fr. Blaine Burkey, O.F.M.Cap., Consultant

## Other Guild Officers ♥

Frankie Rachell-Bruce, phone secretary

Sharon Doerflinger, membership secretary

Office vacant, recording secretary

Minnie Cassell, associate secretary

Essy Goffinett, associate secretary

Ria de Dios, associate secretary

## Guild Contacts ♥

**Julia Greeley Guild**

c/o Cathedral Basilica

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