



## **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**

**Forty-second Issue 10-31-2023  
All Saints' Eve Edition**

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## **Fr. Blaine To Lead Another Lenten Bus Pilgrimage Through Julialand March 23 ♥**

The Capuchin Franciscans' events office will be sponsoring another bus pilgrimage honoring Julia Greeley during Lent of 2024.

Pilgrims will travel 22 miles by commercial tour bus to the candidate for canonization's tomb in Immaculate Conception Cathedral Basilica, by way of 19 sites known to have been frequented by her, with longer stops at her boarding house, Sacred Heart Church, and the Cathedral. At each site, and often in between, Fr. Blaine

will share information on Julia's life and virtues. The pilgrimage will begin at the Capuchin offices at 3613 Wyandot in North Denver at 10 a.m. and return there at approximately 3 p.m. A pilgrimage-fare noon meal will be served at Sacred Heart Church and pilgrims will each receive a copy of Fr. Blaine's pamphlet, *An Hour with Julia Greeley*. His larger book and other items will be available for sale at the offices. Seats on the bus are \$125 and limited. Reserve seats at [events@capuchins.org](mailto:events@capuchins.org) or at 303-477-5436.

## **Chesterton Academy Students First to Make Camino-Style Pilgrimage Following "Hometown Hero" On Foot Through Streets of Denver ♥**

The entire student body of Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Victory in Centennial CO, as part of the school's Formation Friday program, spent much of Sept. 13, in Sacred Heart Church in Rino neighborhood and Immaculate Conception



Cathedral Basilica on Capitol Hill, and along the two miles of sidewalk in between.

After a Mass in Sacred Heart during which Fr. Blaine spoke about Julia's extensive activities in the parish, the students had sack lunches they brought with them, and then

took off on a prayer filled journey, which took them along the chapel on Ogden St., where devotion to Julia was first publicly shown two days after her death, and Fire



Station 3, where Julia often visited the firemen.

The *Denver Catholic* on-line newspaper on Oct. 6, posted a long article on the event by André Escaleira, Jr., who included a 57-second video he made showing scenes of the high school students and their teachers and parents making their pilgrimage. Watch the article and its video at <https://denvercatholic.org/chesterton-academy-follows-hometown-hero-julia-greeley-on-pilgrimage-through-streets-of-denver>

At the Cathedral, the pilgrims spent three quarters of an hour praying before the exposed Blessed Sacrament, during which a large number of them made individual visits to the chapel where Julia's body rests and asked for her intercession for various petitions.

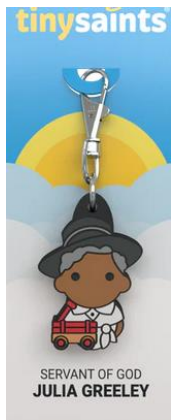
The Our Lady of Victory pilgrimage was the first camino-style group known to visit Julia's tomb.

## **Tiny Julia Greeley Created for Little Ones ♥**

Dr. Christine Pink, the forensic scientist who exhumed and examined the bones of July Greeley in 2017 found her to have been a tiny woman, five feet one inch in height.

The latest addition to the growing iconography of the Servant of God now shows her to be just a single inch tall.

It is one of the latest of the creations of Joe and Coleen Klinker of Winter Garden FL in their collection of well over a hundred TinySaints charms.



“Small, colorful plastic Catholic saints can be seen hanging from key chains, zippers and backpacks alongside Hello Kitty and Pokémon,” Connor Bergeron the Arlington VA *Catholic Herald* wrote back in 2017. “They’re called Tiny Saints, and founders Joe and Colleen Klinker conceived the idea as

they explained the death of their stillborn daughter, Melody Paige, to her older siblings.

“The loss of their daughter was unexpected and devastating. It also prompted questions from their children Gracie, 9, and JT, 8. Death was a topic the Klinkers hadn’t anticipated discussing until much later, but it opened a conversation about heaven and who Melody was with.”

The Klinkers began to tell their children stories about saints. But the images they found online didn’t resonate with their children. To bridge the gap, Joe and Coleen created tiny, simplistic drawings of saints, which did capture their children’s imagination. JT saw St. George playing swords with his little sister, while Gracie pictured Melody chasing after butterflies with St. Kateri Tekakwitha. Noticing their children’s reaction, the Klinkers saw a potential market and created Tiny Saints.

Most recent additions to the line include besides Julia, two others of the Saintly Six African Americans: Ven. Pierre Toussaint and Ven. Mary Lange.

The pendants are for sale at [TinySaints.com](http://TinySaints.com) for \$6.



## Another Artist Struck by Julia Greeley’s Joy ♥

Another new image of Julia sprang from the imagination of a London-based Portuguese-born artist Ruben Ferreira.

Ferreira met Julia in his continued efforts to “find the immense richness of knowing lesser-known saints worldwide that are so



modern, diverse and contemporary,” he told the *Denver Catholic*. Upon meeting her, Ferreira said he knew he had to share Julia’s story with the world. “After I read the story of Julia Greeley,” Ferreira said, “I was moved by her humility and simplicity in the midst of such a dramatic life. The world seems to show us that discrimination and hate are valid options, but Julia shows us the opposite. She shows us tolerance, humble service, joy, and faith in action that doesn’t have time to hate. or judge others. Julia didn’t seek the first place, to be seen or popular. Julia Greeley shows us what God’s Love is.”

## Another Image of Julia Appears in Baltimore ♥

During a recent celebration at Baltimore's St. Ambrose Church's commemorating the nearly 150 years of Capuchin presence in the Baltimore Archdiocese, the presiding bishop also blessed large banners of the "Saintly Six" African American candidates for sainthood.

St. Ambrose Parish has a predominantly African American membership and since 1992 has been served by friars of the Capuchin Franciscan Order.

In the special ceremony planned for the blessing, six young people, appropriately costumed, stood in for the "Saintly Six." Shown here are the doubles for Ven. Mother Mary Lange and S.G. Julia Greeley.



## Banner from Colfax Ave Now on Logan Street ♥

In 2018, the rector of the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Fr. Ron Cattany, hung a series of banners commemorating saintly folks who have visited or lived in Denver. They were on the lampposts surrounding the magnificent building, and the one honoring Julie Greeley was in the prayer garden along Colfax Ave.



Sometime since then a vehicle knocked over the



lamppost, and Julia's banner disappeared.

Recently when the Guild sought to have the banner found and replaced on the lamppost, which was already back in place, it was informed the banner has moved around the building onto Logan Street, where it is less susceptible to damage from vehicles, and also closer to Julia's physical remains.

## Wagon Fact Checker

### Julia and the Greeleys ♥

A blog about Julia on the Denver Public Library web site says:

"...Very little is known about why Julia came to Colorado and with whom. Some say she was the maid to Horace Greeley and his wife, Mary Cheney. Horace Greeley was a politician and prominent editor for the *New York Tribune*. In his later years, he moved to Colorado in 1859, when Julia was named as a servant in the household. Many people believe that Julia adopted the name Greeley from Horace Greeley.

"Others reported that Julia came to Colorado with Governor William Gilpin and his wife, Julia Dickerson. Julia Greeley remained a faithful nursemaid to the Gilpin family until she left to begin her new life at the Sacred Heart Parish in Denver, Colorado. She was baptized in the Catholic faith in 1880."

The facts are, however: Horace Greeley was indeed a politician and prominent editor

for the *New York Tribune*, and Julia was baptized in the Catholic faith in 1880. But Julia Greeley did not come to Colorado when the Gilpins moved here in 1874. She came by herself in about 1878, after asking the Gilpins if she could come and work for them.

Julia never worked for the Greeleys, and the Greeleys never moved to Colorado. From 1853, until till their deaths--a month apart in 1872--six years before Julia moved to Colorado-- they lived on Greeley's 72-acre farm at Choppaqua, NY, 30 miles NNE of the Big Apple. Horace did come to Denver in 1859, but just as a traveler on his way west to the California Gold Rush.

It is quite possibly true, however--though not really certain--that once Julia was able to adopt a surname, she chose Horace's name as her own, as he was very well known as having strongly urged Lincoln to emancipate the slaves.

Though he never moved to Colorado, Horace funded and promoted the Union Colony of Colorado which later became the city of Greeley, which is named after him.



## 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 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., Nov. 3, 5:30 p.m.**

**Fri., Dec. 1, 5:30 p.m.**

**Fri., Jan. 5, 5:30 p.m.**

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

## Guild Contacts ♥

### Julia Greeley Guild

c/o Cathedral Basilica

1535 N. Logan St.

Denver CO 80203-1913

[juliagreeleyguild@gmail.com](mailto:juliagreeleyguild@gmail.com)

(303) 558-6685

[www.juliagreeley.org](http://www.juliagreeley.org)

## Welcome to Our Meetings ♥

All Guild Members and other Friends of Julia are welcome at our planning meetings. We meet by ZOOM every Third Thursday of the month at 10:30 a.m. MT. The coming meetings will be on Nov. 16, Dec. 21, and Jan. 18. 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.

## 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.**

## Our Officers ♥

Mary Leisring, President & Treasurer

Frankie Rachell-Bruce, Vice President

Kevin Knight, Secretary

Fr. Sam Morehead, Pastor

Fr. John James Arcidiacono, C.J.S., Guild

Liaison to the Cathedral Staff

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

## 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**

## 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**

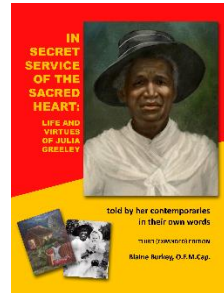
**Fr. Pacificus Kennedy, O.F.M.**



## Greeley Guild Galleria

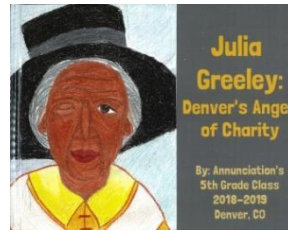
The Guild has a number of items available for purchase at its office at the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, 1525 N. Logan St., Denver CO 80203-1913. A check made out to “Cathedral Basilica” in the amount of the price of the item(s) wanted and the name and address, phone number, and email 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 childrens-illustrated 17-page book, produced by Annunciation**

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**

