



CALIFORNIA

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR

hearts wide as the world: together making a difference



Greetings!

May the hope inspired by Easter and this season of Spring remain alive in us, rooted strongly enough to withstand the many everyday challenges we face - personally and globally.

Monica

Monica May
Development Director



Calling all NDSF graduates!

Don't miss the reunion on April 22, beginning with a 10:30am Liturgy at Mission Dolores, followed by lunch at the Spanish Cultural Center. Their well-chosen theme is "Let there be peace on earth."

For more information: Contact Katie O'Leary at nuttydames@aol.com

111 years ago this week

On April 18, 1906, Bay Area was struck by the now-infamous earthquake. These thoughts were shared by Sisters in their letters:

"It was impossible to move, or think of descending the stairs, the house and its contents seemed to be in wild convulsions jumping up and down, backward and forward, in fearful frenzy and wrath."

-Sr. Cecile Gerlach

"I could only find peace and rest by placing myself in God's hands to do or suffer whatsoever He pleased. How helpless everybody seemed when God merely touched the earth, and how little everything earthly seemed ever since. As Father Walsh said yesterday, the earthquake did more good than a hundred retreats. Even infidels went on their knees."

-Sr. Mary Gertrude from San Jose



Notre Dame San Francisco, before and after the Earthquake. The greatest damage resulted from the fire set by fire fighters to create a fire break that was never needed.

And a very practical thought from the Sister Superior in Watsonville:

"Was it not a blessing that I had the Insurance raised? And if we get it, the fire was a blessing in disguise as our home was greatly damaged by the earthquake."



A girl walks with a jug to retrieve water near a church in Rajaf, South Sudan

(CNS photo/Matthieu Alexandre, Caritas Internationalis)

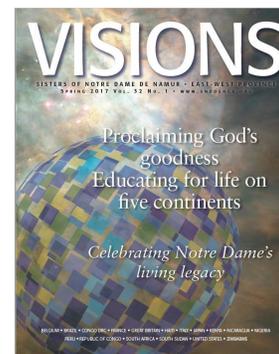
Mangoes, sweet potatoes and green peppers...

In South Sudan, food is scarce and suffering is plentiful. Our Sr. Carolyn Buhs, her students, and others associated with the Solidarity with South Sudan organization work together to grow food, share resources and educate future teachers to keep the people and spirit of the young country alive.

[Read the latest update direct from our Sr. Carolyn here.](#)

Watch your mailbox!

The Spring 2017 version of the **Visions** publication is coming soon!



The Sureness of Resurrection

by Sr. Kay McMullen

I was sure this morning
that my life depended
on a walk up the canyon
following a path
from another century
dust under my shoes.
I heard Stellar's Jay's
hoarse call
paused at a buckeye
wearing new green



breathed the scent
of cypress, eucalyptus
and sage
then stopped
to sit on a bench
by the lake
where I gathered
peace from mallards
and hope
from the sudden
resurrection flight
of the Great Blue Heron.

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