

# Cross Currents



## HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL

Silver Spring, Maryland

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April 1980

### Sister Jude Appointed to Board of Trustees

Sister Jude Anne Magers, C.S.C., was named to the Board of Trustees of Holy Cross Hospital late last year to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Sister Patricia Vandenburg, C.S.C., Assistant Administrator, Clinical Services.

Sister Jude entered the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 1970 and made her final profession in 1978.

She holds a diploma from the Holy Cross School of Nursing, South Bend, Ind., and a bachelor's degree in nursing from the Indiana University School of Nursing at Indianapolis. She



Sister Jude

also completed an Oncology Nursing Update at Indiana Central University in 1979.

Sister has held nursing assignments at St. John's Hospital, Anderson, Ind., St. Joseph's Hospital, South Bend, Ind., and at Holy Cross Hospital here in Silver Spring where she served from 1971 to 1975.

### Central Supply

### System Helps Assure Good Patient Care

The Central Supply Distribution and Processing system at Holy Cross Hospital was designed with the major goal of enabling nursing personnel to spend the maximum possible time in direct patient care activities.

Traditionally, nurses had to spend a great deal of their time in such activities as sterilizing instruments, preparing ice packs, fetching linens and medications or other supplies from distant storerooms far removed from the patient areas.

Under the supply system designed for Holy Cross, professional nursing personnel are relieved of most of these time-consuming duties and are thus able to spend virtually all of their time providing nursing care.

Charles Garcia, Supervisor of Distribution, says the effectiveness of the system stems from the use of automated equipment — including conveyor belts, pneumatic tubes, supply carts on wheels and two-way storage closets in each patient room which are called nurse-servers.

The wheeled supply carts are located on every nursing floor and contain the supplies needed for a normal 24-hour period. For each medical supply and linen cart located on the nursing floors, there is a back-up cart located in Central Supply which is being replenished. During the early morning hours, the back-up carts are

Sister Jude is presently assigned to St. John's Hospital in Anderson where she is a Nurse Consultant in Oncology.



Mamie Harris, Supply Technician restocks a back-up cart which will be returned to a patient area.

taken to the nursing floors and the used carts are returned to Central Supply and the cycle is begun again.

The same system is in effect for both the Operating Rooms and the Labor and Delivery Suites. Complete supply carts are prepared a day in advance of each scheduled operation as well as for the 8 to 10 babies delivered on an average day. These carts contain many special items which are pre-packaged, pre-sterilized, and available for instant use.

Mr. Garcia said most of the personnel in his department have been with the hospital for a good many years and know the importance of their jobs

CENTRAL (cont'd on page 2)

**CENTRAL** (cont'd from page 1)

in maintaining high standards of patient care.

Just as nursing personnel are relieved of much of the time-consuming tasks of fetching supplies because of the Distribution system, clean-up is simplified by the Central Processing system supervised by Mrs. Ann McDowell, R.N. All soiled supplies are returned to the Central Processing area where supply technicians begin the recycling process.

All soiled items are handled in the decontamination area where hardware, surgical instruments, and other supplies are washed by machine and then sterilized in a unit called an autoclave. This pass-through device enables personnel in the preparation area to remove the sterilized items completely apart from the soiled area. Even the wheeled carts are cleaned and sterilized in a specially equipped wash room.

In the preparation area, the surgical instrument sets, treatment trays and other items are wrapped and once again sterilized for storage while awaiting a return trip to the areas where they will be used.

The Processing area also includes a sewing center where a seamstress is kept busy repairing damaged linens and making draperies for various patient care areas.

Mrs. McDowell, a long-time employee herself, said she is impressed by the pride her personnel have in their work. "They are some of the most dedicated people I have ever met in my many years at the hospital," she said.



*Paula Perry makes up instrument sets in preparation for final sterilization of the packages.*



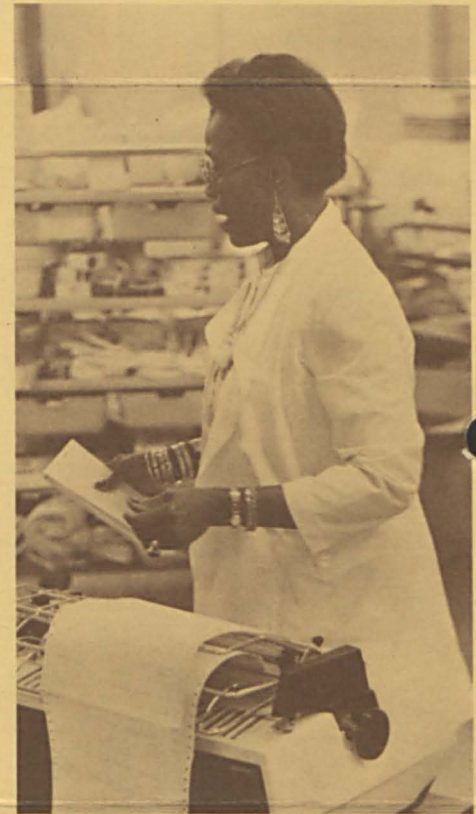
*Supply Technicians Barbara Bennett (at right) and Frances Palmer fold gowns to be used in surgery and labor and delivery.*



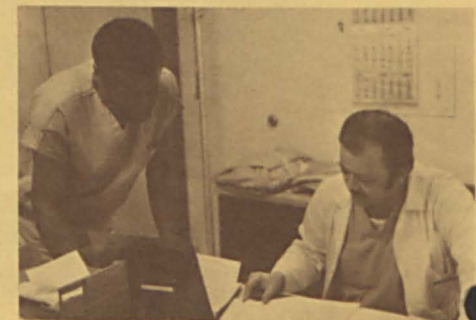
*Michael Waddell, Supply Technician, prepares a wheeled cart for the Outpatient Minor Surgery.*



*Technician Lillian Emmons prepares treatment trays in the Processing section.*



*Vivian Roberts, Supply Technician, fills an order received on the automated MedPro system typewriter in the foreground.*



*Charles Garcia (seated) Distribution Manager goes over planning for evening duties with Derrick Hopkins, Acting Assistant Supervisor.*

## Hospital Offers Program to Assist Widows

Holy Cross Hospital of Silver Spring has initiated a program to assist widows in the bereavement period following the death of a husband.

The program is intended to help the widow face the reality of her loss, establish new, realistic goals, and encourage the use of appropriate resources. No fees are charged of participants.

Loss of a significant person can be one of life's most devastating experiences. Many studies have shown that loss sets in motion a train of feelings called grief. Unresolved grief is being recognized as the forerunner for a wide range of physical, mental and emotional disorders. The new program is designed to provide an atmosphere that assists the bereaved person through mutual sharing, encouragement and support.

Anyone wishing to participate may make application by contacting Sister Clarisse, Thanatologist, at 565-1240.



*Susan Hawkins has been promoted to Senior Clinical Dietitian, Vidula Glass, Dietary Department Director has announced. Susan came to Holy Cross in September 1972 as a clinical dietitian after completing her dietetic internship at Freedmen's Hospital (now Howard University Medical Center). She holds a bachelor's degree in Foods and Nutrition from the University of Texas at Austin, and is currently working towards a master's degree in nutrition.*

## Family Grant Funds Hospice Position at Holy Cross Hospital

Holy Cross Hospital has added a nurse specialist in the field of hospice services for terminally ill patients to its Home Care Department staff.

Mrs. Karen Giblin, R.N., was appointed to the position of Hospice Facilitator. She will be responsible for developing educational programs to acquaint physicians, nurses and technical personnel with hospice care concepts and will coordinate hospice services with other agencies and organizations in the hospital's service area.



*Karen Giblin*

Sister M. Jean Louise, C.S.C., executive administrator, said the new position was made possible through a grant made to the hospital by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kramer, of Silver Spring.

"Holy Cross Hospital has been providing a broad range of service to terminally ill and recuperative patients in their own homes since 1967," Sister Jean Louise said. "The generosity of the Kramer family now enables us to devote significantly greater efforts in behalf of dying patients and their families."

Mrs. Giblin was a staff nurse in the Washington Home Hospice prior to her appointment at Holy Cross. Earlier, she had served for two years as a care review coordinator for the Montgomery County Medical Care Foundation.

She is a graduate of the University of Iowa where she received a bachelor's degree in Psychiatric Nursing Education. After completing her undergraduate work she served for three

## Chaplain's CORNER

The Bible started its Genesis accounts on works with a command from God to man to conquer the earth, to rule the world in holiness, and to eat his bread by the sweat of his brow. Since then man has aimed at changing the world monumentally through his work. Today, he has come of age and is successfully ruling his environment, thanks to science and technology.

The Second Council of Vatican #33 states that "as a result man now produces by his own enterprise many things which in former times he looked for from heavenly power." Things such as the lessening of suffering, the alleviation of pain, the attainment of happiness which were associated with religion before, came under the controlling umbrella of man's scientific and technological power.

Herein lies the danger that work might lose its rationale for existence: a prolongation of God's creative task and man's contribution to the fulfillment in history of the divine plan. To forget and do away with this rationale is to desacralize work - to divorce the divine from the human element. When this happens, what good is there for the creature without his Creator, for the work without the Worker? When work becomes desacralized, it becomes depersonalized. What counts is not what man IS, but what he HAS!

Is this the reason why some are enslaved to their work, why they are working so that they may have more forgetting that "through the homage of work offered to God man is associated with the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, whose labor with his hands at Nazareth greatly ennobled the dignity of work?" (Vatican Council II #67)

**Rev. Fernando G. Gutierrez**

years as a volunteer in an allergy clinic in Paris, France. Upon returning to this country, she worked as a public health nurse in Rochester, Minnesota, for one year before returning to graduate school.

## Assistant Administrator for Clinical Services

Sister Patricia Vandenburg, C.S.C., was appointed Assistant Administrator for Clinical Services in February.

Sister came to Holy Cross last summer after completing her work for a Master's Degree in Health Care Administration at Duke University in Durham, N.C. Areas of special concentration in her degree program were finance and manpower administration.

In her assignment as Assistant Administrator, Sister has responsibility for the departments of Pathology, Radiology, Pharmacy, Nuclear Medicine, Respiratory Therapy, Physical Medicine, Renal Dialysis, Home Care, Dietary Anesthesia, EEG, and ECG.

A native of New York City, Sister holds a diploma from the Roosevelt Hospital School of Nursing and a B.S. Degree in Nursing from Hunter College. She also earned a Certificate in Coronary Care Nursing from Indiana University Medical Center.

Sister Patricia has held a variety of positions in nursing, including Critical Care Staff Nurse, Cardiovascular Clinical Specialist, Inservice Education Coordinator, and Ambulatory Services Coordinator in Fiscal Services. She has served at Mount Carmel Medical Center, Columbus, Ohio, St. Joseph's Hospital, South Bend, Indiana, St. John's Hospital, Anderson, Indiana, and Methodist Hospital, St. Vincent's Hospital and Roosevelt Hospital, all in New York City.



*Sister Patricia*

## Credit Union News

Because inflation has increased the cost of doing business, the Holy Cross Hospital Employees Federal Credit Union's Board of Directors and the National Credit Union Administration have approved an increase in interest rates. The new rates are as follows:

Signature loan, 15%; New car loan, 14%; Share loan, 11%.

These new rates will apply to all loans approved on and after May 15, 1980.

The Credit Union now has available Credit Disability Insurance for all

## Sister Francine to Return to Mission Work in Brazil

Sister Francine, C.S.C., who has served as a Pastoral Associate since December 1977 will complete her assignment at Holy Cross on April 25.

Sister will return to her missionary work in Brazil this summer, she said. From 1962 to 1975, Sister Francine was a missionary sister working in the school system in Brazil and in homes of families in the parishes where she was assigned.

Brazil is an overwhelmingly Catholic country but the school system is state owned and operated and a parochial school does not exist. Sister served as the Coordinator for a large grade school in Sao Paulo and in a similar capacity in an industrial town called Parana in the southern part of the country.

A native of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, she served as an educator in parish schools in New York, Washington, D.C. and in Texas for 12 years prior to volunteering for work as a missionary sister.

Sister will be missed by her many friends on the hospital staff.

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## HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL OF SILVER SPRING

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