

**The latest issue (Vol. 25, No. 1) of *The MAST Journal* was recently published.** Editor Eloise Rosenblatt, RSM explains that “Pilgrimage, Prayer and Popular Spirituality” is the theme for this issue.

**Sharon Kerrigan, R.S.M.** gives an accessible, general overview of what pilgrimage means cross-culturally, from ancient times to the present in “Pilgrimages to Sacred Places.”

**Julia Upton, R.S.M.,** treats the subject historically in “The Ways of the Pilgrim,” and includes the reflections of two students—one on a visit to Hiroshima; the other the Islamic Hajj.

**Marilyn King, R.S.M.,** in “Life as a Pilgrimage” interviews three sisters who have walked the traditional *El Camino de Santiago* in Spain.

**Anna Nicholls, R.S.M.** writes “Welcome Home: Mercy International Center, a Pilgrimage Destination,” inviting readers to Baggot Street and describing some of the “stations” where stories about Catherine McAuley are re-told

**Kathrine Doyle, R.S.M.** takes up the “prayer” theme in “Storming Heaven: Intercessory Prayer, an Indispensable Work of Mercy,” surveying the theological inspiration, themes and liturgical settings for intercessory prayer, and the urgency of today’s needs.

**Chorbishop William Leser,** appointed by St. John Paul II to serve the Maronite community, presents the first part of his “Meditation on the Lord’s Prayer” in this issue.

**Mary-Paula Cancienne, R.S.M.** integrates social ethics and ritual theory in her essay “Spontaneous Mournful Rituals after School Shootings.”

**Angela Rausch,** a laywoman, wife and mother was the homilist at a local Eucharist in which she reacts to the demonstrations by white nationalists and counter-protestors resulting in a woman’s death in Charlottesville, Virginia, August 11-12, 2016

This issue also includes several other homilies, demonstrating the power of women to interpret the scriptures as a response to public events. The homilists include **Pastor Julie Webb, Rose Weidenbenner, RSM, Kathleen Erickson, RSM, and Mary Ruth Broz, RSM**

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