



# Magnificat House of Discernment

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## House Hosts High Schoolers for Nun Run

by Martha Knox, resident discerner

During the weekend of February 23rd we hosted a Nun Run, which, although some running was involved, did not include running to the airport to pick up some sisters or cheering on sisters as they raced competitively.

Our Nun Run began with loud beeping sounds from the outside. Quickly realizing this indicated our guests' arrival Alice, Paige and I ran to the door. Exuberance greeted us in the form of fifteen high school girls, bags and pillows in hand, abuzz with chatter and enthusiasm. As they filed up the stairs and started settling in we met with their three adult chaperones, who



Sr. Kathleen Staleum gives Nun Run participants tour of Maranite's 9th Ward residence after they joined in the sisters' community luncheon.

had travelled with them all the way from Jackson, Mississippi, and would be joining them as the girls visited several religious orders within the New Orleans area.

Everyone was soon settled in and ready for several mini-adventures with sisters! Saturday started with the Marianites in the 9th Ward for lunch, then a quick stop at the Discalced Carmelites on the North Shore, Evening Prayer with the Daughters of

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*Don't miss our next exciting M m m m Night . . .*

Join us **Friday, March 15th at 6:00 PM** for Mass celebrated by **Fr. Chrys Finn (OP)** followed by a potluck supper and a discussion on the challenges of balancing a professionally demanding ministry with prayer and community. Speakers include **Dr. Tom Ryan**, Director Loyola Institute for Ministry, **Sr. Marina Aranzabel, (SST)**, pastoral associate, and **Sr. Kathy Broussard (OP)**, death penalty mitigator. Anyone 16 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please rsvp to Sr. Diane at [droche@rscj.org](mailto:droche@rscj.org).



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St. Paul, and then dinner with the Sisters and Daughters of Charity. Afterward everyone returned to MHouse for snacks, fellowship with some local young sisters and the Discerners, and Adoration before going to bed.

On Sunday the O. Carmel sisters came over and cooked a delicious breakfast for everyone, then a beautiful Mass with the Archbishop at St. Louis Cathedral, and finally a visit with the local Nashville Dominicans before departing for Jackson.



*Fifteen joy-filled teenagers traveled from Jackson, Mississippi to visit NOLA area religious communities.*

experience filled with abundances of laughter, good conversation, and prayer!

Each visit was a delightful window into the lives of these religious communities. Despite its quickness, our first Nun Run was an exceptionally joyful

### *Martha Makes a Friend*

#### *Reflection by discerner Martha Knox*

*The Lord sent me two very dear gifts recently. As I sat praying after Mass some days ago a woman knelt down next to me. She was a very faith-filled person. She gently spoke to me about Jesus and his love for me and, moved by the spirit, she prayed for me. Her prayer moved me to tears. God knew that at that precise moment a prayerful friend was exactly what I needed. We exchanged names and said our goodbyes, but I left thinking I might never see her again.*

*A few days later I was praying after Mass, asking God to bring me a St. Benedict medal to replace the one that had fallen off my scapular. Imagine my surprise when that same woman approached me! Imagine my even greater surprise when she said she had a medal for me—a St. Benedict medal! She again prayed for me and told me of God's love for me. Then we discussed God's goodness! Before parting we exchanged numbers. God is so good! He sent me exactly what I was wanting, a St. Benedict medal, but—more importantly—he sent me exactly what I was needing, a beautiful new friend.*



*Decoupage Magnificat icon tiles, created by Sr. Diane and Alice, were presented to Srs. Rita and Suzanne following their talk.*

### Thanks Again to Our Mmmmm Night Speakers!

Sr. Rita Darensbourg's (SSF) and Sr. Suzanne Brauer's (OP) deeply personal and practical advice for the use of Scripture inspired some humorous sharing about the limits of "Bible dipping" and some excellent questions about journaling as part of Lectio Divina during the February 15th Mmmmm Night. Twenty-two guests joined the resident discerners and mentors in, yet another, fantastic Magnificat Monthly Mass, Meal, and More! The event's Lent-friendly meal of cheesy Oklahoma-style grits and spicy shrimp was also a big hit! Mass was beautifully celebrated by Fr. Howard Byrd (SSJ). Don't miss our next Mmmmm Night on March 15th - check out the details on page 1.