



# The Portiuncula JOURNEY

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## Gala 2013 Gives a Boost!

The Poor Sisters of St. Clare marked the Year of Faith with the first of the Annual GALA, held at the Rev. Henry L. Sullivan, SJ Center of Creighton Prep on the 1st of August 2013. GALA is the acronym for “Giving A Legacy for All”.

Most Rev. George J. Lucas, Archbishop of Omaha and Mayor Jean Stothert were among the guests of the event that brought together 321 friends and benefactors for an enjoyable evening. Scott Moore was the able and entertaining auctioneer for the fourth time in a row; with Todd Andrews of TV Channel 7 as emcee. Leo Facsianella, Elmo Gray, Tony Messineo, Dan Novacek, Andrew Popp, Ron Popp, Louie Rotella and Jeff Zicardi are the eight connoisseurs in the panel for the special Italian dinner.

Performing artist Mike Debus gave a half hour entertainment doing the Face of Christ and the painting of the Holy Spirit Dove, both of which were auctioned. There were 18 items in the mini silent auction, and 13 items in the oral auction list. Joseph Tometich of St. Gerald Parish won the 2013 white VW Jetta at the raffle draw.

A tour of the Portiuncula under construction was shown on DVD. Sister Theresina led the tour to the guest area, the chapel which is the central and biggest space in the monastery, and the multipurpose hall – all of which



*Archbishop George J. Lucas gave the dinner invocation and was there to the end to close the GALA 2013 with a blessing for everyone.*



*The GALA brought together the city mayor and the little nun of Omaha!*

will open to serve different groups for prayer, meeting, celebration, or days of refectio/retreat. She also showed the facilities within the enclosure reserved

to the cloistered Poor Sisters of St. Clare. Through the support of many, 75% of the work has been accomplished. And the GALA 2013 gave a boost to bring phase 1 of the construction to a close, and opening that of phase 2, with more than \$200,000.00.

The GALA guests also viewed the testimony of Ann and Bradley Albu of Falls City, Nebraska; and of Colter Lewis. They gave testimonies of their personal experience of the Power of Prayer, through the life and mission of the Poor Sisters of St. Clare. Both DVD presentations were prepared by Maria Zellmer and Fred Wolski.

Stephanie and Jack Koraleski were the Honorary Chairpersons for the first Poor Sisters of St. Clare GALA. And the GALA 2013 Team was headed by Mary and Jim Czyz, and Ruth Ann and Ron Popp. Members of the Advisory Council formed by Sister Theresina were announced and recognized. They are: Jim Czyz, Ruth Ann Popp, Connie Cosentino, Deacon Terry Ficenc, Jon Engel, Deacon Joe Hartnett, and Tom Ackley.

In her message, Sister Theresina spelled out the word LEGACY, giving the significance of each letter, and bringing out the importance of each one's presence and participation in “Giving A Legacy for All”. It was a delightful and inspiring event.









