

# In Memoriam

## Polly Plant Hamilton Associate

April 24, 1925 – November 30, 2016

Hamilton Associate Terry Wallace

**A**mong the first women to become a Cluny Associate in Hamilton, Ontario, Polly Plant was a pioneer of her time. Born in the wilds of western Canada, Polly eventually moved east where she completed her Masters Degree in Social Work, married her husband Raymond (1931 – 2015), and raised four children. Active in various parish ministries and forward-thinking in matters of the environment, Polly is remembered as a warm, gentle, gracious, and intelligent woman whose thoughts and opinions were always valued by the Associates. Rest in Peace, Polly!

## Sister Regina (Con't)

goes on in the Associates and friends who remember her and continue living the Cluny charism in their own way.

Lois' last move was back to Hamilton where she had been the Formation Director for a while and she took up the work of Local Coordinator while volunteering with the Good Shepherd Brothers\*. In 2008, recognizing her ability to relate and counsel others, they asked her to take up residence in Angela's Place, a home for unwed mothers and their babies. The young woman who struggled between God's call and the desire for a family ended up surrounded by infants at the end of her life.

And, in the midst of her busy missionary life, Lois stayed close to her family. During their lifetime, she was in frequent communication with her parents and siblings. She maintained close ties with her nieces, nephews and their children. And because she welcomed many of us into her family circle, we are the richer for it.

The "ladybird" is celebrated as a symbol of Mary in many countries, her seven spots representing her sorrows and joys. So too, Sr. Regina knew the sorrows and joys of life. The giving, the working together, the parting and beginning again. As the "ladybird" is a symbol of nurturing, so too, was Sr. Regina, in so many places, in so many ways. Whole-hearted and vibrant as the colors of the "ladybird" Sr. Regina brought life wherever she went.

Godspeed, dear Sister ... fly, fly away home to your Lord.



## Jessie Rodriguez California Associate

November 16, 1934 - October 21, 2016

California Associates

**J**essie was a member of the Cluny Associates in California for about ten years. Jessie joined the Cluny Associates because she was looking for something that would help increase her spirituality. Little did she know that she would become our inspiration.

Jessie would share her happy and joyful times with her family and her sisters, and if something was troubling her she would simply say that God was helping her through it. It was uncomplicated for Jessie, for she had faith and trust in God in all things. When she began to have serious health issues, she shared with us that she accepted her illness as the path God chose for her, and that He was not going to abandon her. She embraced God's holy will as Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey teaches us.

As a member of St. Philomena Parish, Carson, California she served as a Eucharistic Minister, a religious educator, a member of St. Vincent de Paul Society and a member of the RCIA group. She was a wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend.

Jessie began her eternal life on October 21, 2016. She planned the details for her Mass and it was a lovely celebration. In a letter she wrote about her faith journey, there is one passage that best depicts her relationship with God, "I am thankful and thank and praise God to have called me when I didn't know Him." Jessie once had a deep spiritual experience with God which she often spoke of "as being to the mountain top." She always longed to repeat that amazing connection. Jessie, you made it to that mountain top again!

*Clearly you [all] are a letter of Christ  
which I have delivered,  
a letter written not with ink,  
but by the Spirit of the living God,  
not on tablets of stone  
but on tablets of flesh in the heart.*

(2 Corinthians 3:3)

\*Now known as the Hospitalers of St. John of God.