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*From the  
 Office for Schools at the  
 Archdiocese of Milwaukee*



## Fond du Lac's Sisters of St. Agnes Serving on the Border



▲ Sr. Marilyn Bever, C.S.A., teaches a citizenship class in Douglas, Ariz. to a group of "Lawful Permanent Residence" holders.

◀ Attending a Naturalization Ceremony in Tucson is Sr. Susan Kolb, with Jesus Alexis LaMadrid and Guadalupe LaMadrid, Jesus' grandmother.

*(Sisters of St. Agnes submitted photos)*

**VALERIE THIBAUDEAUX GRACZYK  
 SPECIAL TO THE CATHOLIC HERALD**

For 30 years, the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes of Fond du Lac, has been serving near the Mexican border in Southeast Cochise County, Ariz. Currently, five Sisters of St. Agnes live and work in Bisbee, Douglas and Naco — all border towns. Having begun their religious lives in Fond du Lac, they have chosen to minister to people seeking citizenship to the United States.

"The Congregation has always been involved in human rights issues. We are committed to the dignity of all people and what better place to protect people's rights than right here on the border," Sr. Susan Kolb said. "In 2002, I passed the law exam and became a lawyer working

on legal issues involving immigration. My work covered a three-county area for Southern Arizona Legal Aid. I handled hundreds of cases including domestic violence, custody, child support, preparing applications for permanent residency to name a few.

"I retired in 2013 and began a pro bono non-profit called 'We are One Family Immigration Project,'" Sr. Susan continued, noting that Sr. Christi Ann Laudolf helps her locate and complete hundreds of forms, and is invaluable to their 60 clients. "Recently, I attended a Naturalization Ceremony in Tucson for a grandmother and her grandson I had helped. Their joy was a gift for me to witness."



▲ Sr. Mary Rose Obholz, C.S.A., aids Georgina Gonzalez and Oraldo Rodriguez Flores with the process of applying for U.S. citizenship.

Teaching English Language Learning and Citizenship classes are Sr. Mary Rose Obholz and Sr. Marilyn Bever.

"We have been meeting once a week since August at the parish hall in the city of Douglas and at the library," Sr. Marilyn said.

"The members of CSA have found deep appreciation from the people they have been able to support in their hopes and dreams to become U.S. citizens."

"We work with about 25 men and women who have permanent residency, but want to become citizens so they can vote. There is a great deal to learn to take the test. One question few U.S. citizens even know is, 'Who wrote the Federalist Papers, and why were they written?' Before teaching this material, I certainly could not have named the three authors," Sr. Marilyn smiled.

Crossing the border into Naco Sonora is what Sr. Mary Rose does occasionally.

"I know several families who live across the border, and I have been able to support them as they move through the process to apply for U.S. citizenship," she said. "One particular couple are Georgina Gonzalez and Oraldo Rodriguez Flores. She taught Spanish at the middle school for 12 years and her husband is a retired science teacher. Two of their three sons are U. S. citizens, as are four of their grandchildren. They have VISAs and are able to cross into the U.S. to visit them on weekends. The VISAs are good for one year and then must be renewed as they are in the process of applying for citizenship."

The members of CSA have found deep appreciation from the people they have been able to support in their hopes and dreams to become U.S. citizens.

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# Festi

**July 14-16, 2017**

**NEW DATE! NEW DATE!**

**Friday, July 14th (4:00 PM - 10:00 PM)**

|      |                           |               |
|------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 4:00 | <b>Tom Brusky Band</b>    | (Polka) - G   |
| 7:00 | <b>Stetsin &amp; Lace</b> | (Country) - W |
| 7:30 | <b>Bobby Friss Band</b>   | (Rock) - W    |

**Saturday, July 15th (3:00 PM - 10:00 PM)**

|      |                          |                |
|------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 3:00 | <b>Hot Off the Grill</b> | (50's, 60's)   |
| 3:00 | <b>Groove Therapy</b>    | (Horn Band)    |
| 7:00 | <b>The Cheap Shots</b>   | (Rock/Pop)     |
| 7:30 | <b>Almighty Vinyl</b>    | (70's Classic) |

**Sunday, July 16th (11:30 AM - 10:00 PM)**

|       |                          |             |
|-------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 11:30 | <b>Tom Anthony Group</b> | (Las Vegas) |
| 12:00 | <b>Generation Z</b>      | (Rock/Pop)  |
| 4:00  | <b>76 Juliet</b>         | (Pop/Rock)  |
| 4:30  | <b>Rhythm Method</b>     | (Rock/Pop)  |

**Cash Raffle**

\$3,000 Grand Prize \$1,500 2nd Prize