

## St. Ursula Villa Board of Trustees Retreat Opening Prayer – January 2010



Michelle: Let us pray together in the presence of God and St. Angela.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

All: God of our past, our present and our future, you are the One from whom we come and the One to whom we go. Be with us here as we gather in our common call to holiness, in our shared mission as St. Ursula Villa Trustees, as together we seek your wisdom and guidance this evening.

Ann: A Reading from First Corinthians

To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. To one is given through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to one the expression of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another mighty deeds; to another prophesy; to another discernment of spirits; to another varieties of tongues; to another interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as He wishes.

Kevin: St. Angela has assured us that every request we make of God will most certainly be granted. Lord, you called Angela to bring new apostolic vision to the women and men of the Church.

All: May we continue in the spirit of Angela to serve St. Ursula Villa as we honor the vision and courage of those who came before us, especially Mother Fidelis Coleman, foundress of the Ursulines of Cincinnati and all those who created our traditions of excellence in education and service to others.

Pat: Angela has said that if we are united in heart, we will have the strength of a mountain fortress.

All: Increase the bonds of care and respect among us so that we may be united in heart and mind.

Peg: Angela has promised to be in our midst, lending aid to our prayer.

All: May we be conscious of her help and presence as we honor our heritage and strive to make wise choices for the future of St. Ursula Villa.

Sally: Angela has counseled that if, with change of time or circumstances, it becomes necessary to alter anything, we should do it with prudence.

All: May we have wisdom, courage and patience in order to make changes and decisions that will promote life and growth for St. Ursula Villa.

Corey: Angela pledged to be our faithful friend.

All: May she be with us this evening in our sharing and our support of one another.

Michelle: May our hearts be glad! Let us rejoice in the blessing of our time together and in our efforts to shape a shared future for St. Ursula Villa. May we move forward in faith and trust in exploring direction for our efforts, in shaping the uses of our common energy, dreams and resources, in searching for insight as to how we can better serve the needs of the children of St. Ursula Villa. Let our vision reach beyond the next plan, the next problem, to the vision of the Gospel.

All: May we grow, Lord, in trust and zeal. May your Spirit ever guide us, wakening, opening, disturbing and delighting us, as we forge fresh directions, fresh possibilities. Amen. (Adapted from UES BOT Prayer Service – March 2007)