In the spring the Sisters of St. Francis awarded six new scholarships through the Carmen de Barros Scholarship Fund. This fund was established about 15 years ago in honor of one of our Hispanic Sisters. Carmen was a high school teacher much beloved by her students and other faculty. She was also the founding director of a discernment house we established in Chicago among Hispanics there. She came to the States from Cuba for her college education at Marian College and then became one of us. Her loving presence and our commitment to education especially for Hispanic youth continues through the scholarship.

This year the happy recipients are: Tatiana Argueta, Jessica Ayala, and Alejandro Julian Agraz Osleber attending Catholic high schools in Chicago; Tarcila Garcia-Nonato and Yolett Perez attending Shawe Memorial in Madison, Indiana; and Angelina Charlotte Pelayo attending Sacred Heart Academy in Louisville, Kentucky. (Angelina’s photo is here; plaques were mailed to the students this year because of COVID-19.)

Thank you to each of you who through your donations to this fund help us to continue in this ministry to our Hispanic sisters and brothers. This year there are 20 Carmen de Barros Scholars in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio.