

# Serving the Dear Neighbor

NEWS FROM THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH



3427 GULL ROAD

NAZARETH, MICHIGAN 49074

## Congregation looks forward with New Leadership; New Vision

In a spirit of great joy and anticipation, nearly 300 sisters, associates, staff, and other partners in mission of the Congregation of St. Joseph came together for our Chapter meeting April 2 - 7, 2018, in Chicago, with many more joining by live-streaming from our centers and homes.

Community members elected the congregation's new leadership team who will serve a five-year term beginning in August. The newly elected team is a group of multi-talented women who are deeply committed to furthering

the mission of unity in today's world. They are (below right, clockwise from top) Sisters Marie Hogan, Sallie Latkovich, Pat Warbritton, Jacqueline Goodin, and Kathy Brazda. Please join us in welcoming our new team and in gratitude for the amazing leadership of our current team. ●



Clockwise from top: Sisters Paula Terese Pilon, Maria Francisca Izawa, Theresa Pitruzzello and Erin McDonald mug for a selfie; Chapter 2018 workbook; current leadership team members Sisters Rita Ann Teichman and Jeannie Masterson help open the proceedings; our newly elected leadership team; and members vote to affirm our new directional statement.

# NEWS AND UPDATES



Sarah Simmons (right) with her sister, Kristin Simmons Wykoski.

## Sarah Simmons Enters Novitiate

On July 22, 2018, Associate Sarah Simmons celebrated her reception as a novice into the Congregation of St. Joseph at our Nazareth center. She, along with Jennifer Berridge, a novice from our Wheeling, W.Va. center, then traveled to Rochester, New York, to begin the ten-month Federation Novitiate Program, which runs August 2018 - May 2019. Sarah, who was born in Kalamazoo, is a chemistry professor at Glen Oaks Community College. She began discerning religious life several years ago and was welcomed as a candidate to the congregation in September 2016. "I began considering religious life out of a desire to be a part of something greater than myself," she said. "As I discerned with the Congregation of St. Joseph, the community began to feel like home. I decided to enter because of the relationships I've developed that have helped me feel welcomed, supported, and challenged to continually grow into my best self." Please keep Sarah and Jennifer in your prayers as they continue their journey toward vowed religious life. ●

## Congregation Celebrates Friends and Supporters at Appreciation Mass and Reception

On Sunday, June 24, 2018, the Congregation of St. Joseph welcomed over 100 friends, neighbors and supporters to our center in Nazareth for a Celebration of Appreciation and Thanksgiving. The day began with a Liturgy in Holy Family Chapel presided over by Fr. Mike Howell.

Sister Marcella Clancy, CSJ, gave a reflection and thanked all in attendance for their support and generosity. "We celebrate all our donors today," she said. "Those who have so generously given of their time, talent, and treasure not just to the Congregation of St. Joseph but to our charism and mission, 'that all may be one.'"

After mass, all were invited to enjoy a reception and social time in our dining room (see photos) ●



1 Sister Pam Owens chats with Richard and Barb Ley.

2 Sister Lucy Schneider catches up with relatives, Jim and Judy Schneider.

3 From left to right, Sister Betsy Meagher, Father Mike Howell, and Doug and Karen Williams.

4 From left to right, Raymond Aguirre, Diana Cardosa, Lucy Aguirre, and Sister Beverly Nonte.

5 Sherine Miller visits with Sister Grace Scola.

6 From left to right, Sister Joan Hastreiter, Karen Herman DeMuro, Sister Goretti Germain, and Sara Mullens.

# PEACE AND JUSTICE FOR ALL



## Transformations Spirituality Center Welcomes Sister Joan Chittister

On June 1, 2018, Transformations Spirituality Center hosted best-selling author, speaker, counselor, and thought-leader, Sister Joan Chittister as part of its speaker series, at Chenery Auditorium in Kalamazoo. Joan, a Benedictine Sister of Erie, is an outspoken advocate of justice, peace and equality — especially for women — and has been a visionary spiritual voice for more than 30 years. Over 600 people were in attendance to hear Sister Joan's talk entitled "Radical Spirit," in which she spoke about navigating life in anxious times. To learn more about Sister Joan, visit her website at [www.JoanChittister.org](http://www.JoanChittister.org). To learn more about upcoming programs at Transformations, visit [www.TransformationsCenter.org](http://www.TransformationsCenter.org). ●

## Antiracism Workshop Held

Almost 50 sisters, associates, staff, and others participated in "Understanding and Analyzing System Racism," a workshop held May 9-11, 2018. The workshop was facilitated by Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training, an organization whose mission is to dismantle systemic racism within institutions and build anti-racist multicultural diversity through training. Shown here are participants from the Detroit area including (from left to right) Associate Taryn Winston, Sister Cathey DeSantis, and Associates Rowana Vance, Janet Moss and Valerie Watkins. To learn more, visit [www.CrossroadsAntiracism.org](http://www.CrossroadsAntiracism.org). ●



## Anti-Human Trafficking Presentation Held

On May 19, 2018, members of our congregation's Anti-Human Trafficking Committee offered a presentation entitled, "Human Trafficking Happens Here Too—Moving from Facts to Action." Our six centers were linked via live-streaming for the event. Shown here (from left to right) are Sister Goretti Germain, Associate Connie Ozanich, Associate Janet Frayer, Terri Sieplinga, who gave her personal story as a survivor of human trafficking, YWCA Impact Coordinator Meg Hughey, Sister Rita Ann Teichman, and Sara Morley-La Croix, the Director of the Kalamazoo Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition. ●

## Sisters and Associates Visit Sponsored Students in Haiti

This past March, several sisters and associates once again traveled to Leogane, Haiti, to visit with our sponsored primary and secondary school students there. The trip is co-sponsored by the Federation of Sisters of St. Joseph and Mission Haiti, Inc. From the time they were in 1st grade, our Federation has sponsored the education of 10 girls who are currently in grades 5 and 6. The Federation's commitment is to see that these 10 girls will have the opportunity for an education through grade 13 of secondary and hopefully even into post-secondary education. Joining Sister Sue Torgerson this year were Associates Deb Stonich, Nancy Leonard, and Karen Burke, and her daughter Karen Jakuback. For more information, visit [MissionHaitiInc.org](http://MissionHaitiInc.org). ●



# Jubilee 2018



Sister Mary Hallock  
(*Sister M. Thomas Aquinas*)

75 Years



Sister Janice Popilek, CSJ  
(*Sister Mary Charles*)

60 Years



Sister Lenora Benda, CSJ  
(*Sister Loyola*)

60 Years



Sister Mary Pung, CSJ  
(*Sister Maurilla*)

60 Years



Sister Rita Berby, CSJ  
(*Sister Mary Arthur*)

60 Years



Sister Laura Smith, CSJ  
(*Sister Lorina*)

60 Years



Sister Ellen Mullally, CSJ  
(*Sister Immacula*)

60 Years



Sister Janet Fleischhacker, CSJ

50 Years

# *In Memoriam...*



Sister Virginia Jones, CSJ

50 Years



Sister Janet Pewoski, CSJ

50 Years



Sister Margaret (Peggy)  
Wessel, CSJ

50 Years



Sister Mary Schwartz, CSJ

Entered into eternal life  
on March 24, 2018, after  
70 years of religious life.



Sister Maria Kassab, CSJ

Entered into eternal life  
on March 16, 2018, after  
72 years of religious life.



Sister Kathlene O'Donnell, CSJ

Entered into eternal life  
on September 22, 2017, after  
68 years of religious life.

## *Congratulations*

to these and all 40 sisters who are  
celebrating Jubilees around the  
congregation this year!

To view full biographies, visit us at  
[www.csjoseph.org](http://www.csjoseph.org), and click on  
"Connect With Us" then "Jubilarians."

*We Remember and Celebrate  
the lives of all our sisters who  
passed away  
this year.*



# NEIGHBORING A NEW

Creating a Sustainable and Vibrant Future

## Neighboring aNew

describes the Congregation of St. Joseph's efforts to plan for a vibrant future in which the sisters can continue to respond to the needs of the *dear neighbor* and spread Christ's message of inclusive love, while also caring for aging members and addressing the reality of a diminishing number of sisters.

Part of Neighboring aNew includes plans to renovate and/or build new living centers that will be more suitable to the sisters' needs as they age.

The new Nazareth Center features 76 apartment-style units for both assisted and independent living, which will allow sisters to age in place. The units feature in-room bathrooms and kitchenettes, and have shorter hallways with easier accessibility for walkers and wheelchairs. When sisters no longer

need them, the units will be made available to other seniors in the community.

The centerpiece of the Nazareth Center is a warm and inviting chapel used for daily worship. The Center includes

Transformations Spirituality Center, overnight guest rooms and a large meeting room to accommodate various groups. In recognition of the sisters' commitment to care for creation, the Center was built for energy efficiency and uses solar power for a portion of its energy needs. Sisters are expected to move in to the new Center in October.



## Will You Join Us?

The congregation welcomes donations towards the new Nazareth Center in Kalamazoo. The sisters have been proactive in planning for their future and good stewards of their retirement resources. Donors can support the sisters with chapel and apartment furnishings and other costs. All gifts are welcomed and will be recognized on

site at the center. You can choose a one-time contribution or a pledge that is paid over two years, and your gift can be made through a cash donation, IRA rollover or other vehicle.

For more information about how you can help, please contact Sara Mullens at 269-381-6290.



# Annual Giving Report

# Legacy of the Lacemakers

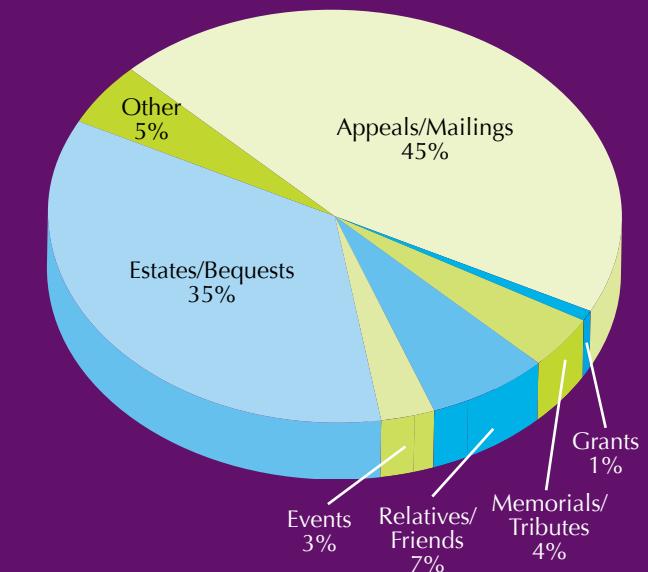
The legacy of caring and mission of the Congregation of St. Joseph was begun by our first six Sisters in LePuy, France, more than 360 years ago, and continues today because of the support provided by you - our faithful donors and friends.

There are many ways you can help ensure that our mission, ministries, and outreach continues now and into the future, including through your prayers, direct annual gifts, membership in our Circle of Friends monthly sustaining donor circle and through your will and estate plans as part of our Heritage Society.

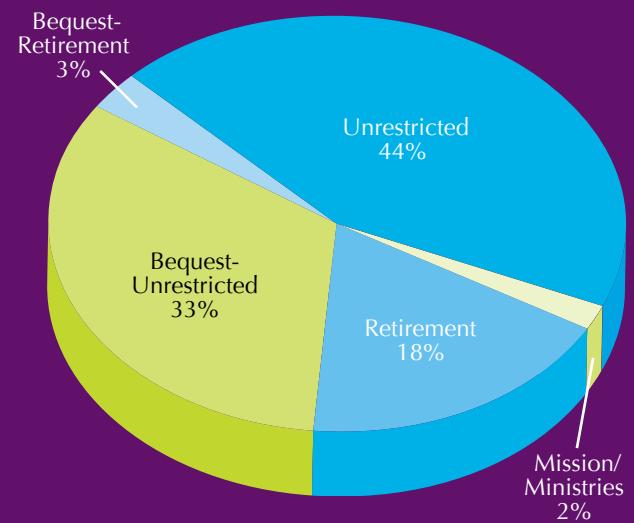
Planned gifts are easy to set up and can be mutually beneficial to both you and the sisters. Your gift to us through your estate, will, life insurance policy or a charitable gift annuity automatically enrolls you as a member of the Congregation of St. Joseph Heritage Society. Leaving a legacy gift to the sisters will enable you to support the sisters in their mission for generations to come and to assist the retired and infirm sisters as they live out their lives in prayerful simplicity.

Please consider remembering the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph when making your estate plans. Please feel free to call or email us. We would be happy to assist you with any questions or information you might need.

Revenue Sources



Donor Designated Uses



\*This reporting documents the sources and designated uses of the charitable donations received by the congregation in 2017. This includes the gifts received by the congregation that are designated to some of our sponsored ministries while gifts sent directly to our ministries are not included here. We rely on the generous support of our benefactors and openly share how gifts received on behalf of the Sisters of St. Joseph are used.

To learn more, please contact Pat Milenius at [pmilenius@csjoseph.org](mailto:pmilenius@csjoseph.org), or call 216.252.0440.

You can also visit us online at [www.csjoseph.org/make-a-gift](http://www.csjoseph.org/make-a-gift)



3427 Gull Road  
Nazareth, MI 49074-0034

## Spotlight Photo



*Super fans Sisters Irene Waldmann (left) and Mary Hallock show their team spirit and stay warm by wearing their Detroit Tigers blankets during the opening game of this year's season. Go Tigers!*

 This newsletter is printed on recycled paper

## Connect With Us!



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## Coming Soon to...



### Transformation in a Time of Uncertainty

Nancy Sylvester, IHM

Saturday, October 27, 2018; 9:30 am - 4:40 pm

### More Together Than Alone; Discovering the Power and Spirit of Community

Mark Nepo

Friday, November 16, 2018; 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Saturday, November 17, 2018; 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

### Spiritual Direction

Transformations offers both individual and group spiritual direction as a way to help discover the Divine within you and beyond you. It is a way to open up and awaken to who you really are, and attunes us to God's presence in our lives.

For more information about spiritual direction and all of our programs, visit us online at [TransformationsCenter.org](http://TransformationsCenter.org)