

Serving the Dear Neighbor

NEWS FROM THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH



CONGREGATION OF

St. Joseph

2929 NAZARETH ROAD
KALAMAZOO, MI 49048

Sisters Move Into New Home!

We are pleased to report that after more than three years of planning, construction and more than a little anticipation, our sisters moved into their new home on our Nazareth campus in Kalamazoo in May!

The new center is a fully licensed assisted living residence which will allow our sisters to age in place. Each of the 76 spacious apartments has convenient in-room bathrooms and kitchenettes, and the center features shorter hallways for easier accessibility for walkers and wheelchairs. When sisters no longer need them, the apartments will be made available to seniors in the community.

The Nazareth Center also features a beautiful new Chapel for daily worship, guest rooms and a large meeting room to accommodate various groups. In recognition of the sisters' commitment to care of Earth, the new center uses solar power (see photo above) for a portion of its energy needs.



“Thanks to an army of volunteers and a huge effort by a dedicated moving team, the move went off as well as we expected,” said Sister Marge Bassett, Coordinator of Sisters. “The sisters are excited and adjusting to their new home, and everyone who lives and works here are so grateful to all who came to help and visit.” ●

See more photos next page >



The beautiful new Chapel can accommodate 80 for Mass and other events.

Sister Georgianna Simon is all smiles during the move.

New Home cont'...



Sister Beth Pero takes a break from moving to relax in her new apartment.



The new center lobby warmly greets all who visit.



One of many covered porches where sisters can sit and enjoy the beauty of God's creation.



Sister Danielle Garst is all smiles as she unpacks during the move.

In Memoriam...



Sister Rosemary Tierney, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on July 14, 2019, after celebrating 70 years of religious life.



Sister Mary Louise Germain, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on March 11, 2019, after celebrating 80 years of religious life.



Sister John Cassian Logue, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on December 30, 2018, after celebrating 76 years of religious life.



Sister Judy Schroeder, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on December 10, 2018, after celebrating 45 years of religious life.



Sister Mary Hallock, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on December 10, 2018, after celebrating 75 years of religious life.



Sister Dorothy Gall, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on November 15, 2018, after celebrating 77 years of religious life.

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

WELCOMING THE STRANGER

On the Border

Sisters and Associates serve the *dear neighbor* in El Paso

This past March and April, sisters, CSJ Associates and other partners in mission headed south to serve at intake facilities on the U.S./Mexican border in El Paso, Texas. Their duties ranged from preparing, serving and cleaning up meals, setting up sleeping areas, organizing donated clothing and supplies, and other work that addresses essential needs of arriving refugees and asylum seekers.

Of those who answered the call were the following sisters who call our Nazareth Center home: Sisters Margot Eder, Marcella Clancy, Rita Ann Teichman, Rosemary Balog, Pam Owens and Erin McDonald.

“When the request for volunteers came, I was ready,” said Sister Margot Eder. “The warm response from our guests and their gratitude was what touched me the most. We could do so little for so short a time, but it clearly meant a lot to them. While we didn’t solve any of the big problems that led them to flee their homes, it clearly made a difference that we welcomed them.”

Sister Marcella Clancy echoed this gratitude at the opportunity to serve. “I am so grateful to have experienced Christ in the pained and sorrowful faces I saw. I am still reflecting on this experience and how I am being invited to change.”

Sister Pam Owens prays for the future of those she met. “For me, a deep sadness remains as I wonder how many of these brothers and sisters will be able to remain in this country and begin a new life, and how many will be returned to a life of fear and hopelessness. Together, we CAN make a difference, and so we continue to volunteer, pray, and trust in God’s unifying love.” ●



Sisters Margot Eder and Marcella Clancy with CSJ Associate Jan Henderson in El Paso, Texas.



Sister Erin McDonald in front of the wall during her second trip to the border in March.



Sisters Jackie Schmitz and Pat Bergen receive a welcomed hug from one of the refugee children during their service trip in April.



Sisters Rosemary Balog, Rita Ann Teichman and Pam Owens help serve a meal during their service trip in April.



A little boy colors on the floor with other refugee children to help pass the time.

Jubilee



Sister Rita Agnes Costello, CSJ
75 Years

*"God is love and he who abides
in love abides in God and God
in him." John 4:1-6*



Sister Yvonne Bechard, CSJ
60 Years

*"The Lord has done great things,
for me and holy is His Name."
Luke 1:49*



Sister Ann Carolyn Gervais, CSJ
75 Years

*"Come, follow me."
Mark 2:14*



Sister Rose Cadaret, CSJ
(Sister Rachelle)
60 Years

*"I have called you by name,
you are mine." Is. 43:1*



Sister Jean Joseph Martin, CSJ
75 Years

*One thing I ask from the Lord...
to dwell in the house of the Lord
and gaze on his beauty all the days
of my life." Psalm 27:4*



Sister Geneva Kruger, CSJ
(Sister Mary Geneva)
60 Years

*"Bless the Lord, O my soul...
He fills your lifetime with good."
Psalm 103:1,5*

Congratulations...

...to these and all 50 sisters who are celebrating Jubilees around the congregation this year!

2019



Sister Gertrude Maurer, CSJ
(Sister Germaine)

60 Years

"I have come that you may have life and have it to the full." John 10:10.



Sister Susan McCrery, CSJ

50 Years

"You have been told what the Lord requires of you: To do justice, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8



Sister Mary Catherine Prunte, CSJ

60 Years

"My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?" Psalm 42:2



Sister Patricia Warbritton, CSJ

50 Years

"The One who has made the promise is worthy of trust." Hebrews 10:23



Sister Nina Rodriguez, CSJ

60 Years

"May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love... Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God." Eph. 3:17-19



Sister Tami Schab, CSJ

25 Years

"For nothing will be impossible for God. Mary said 'Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.'" Luke 1:37-38

PRAYER, PRESENCE AND SERVICE



Sisters Witness For Refugees at **Lights For Liberty** Event

On July 12th, sisters and associates from across our congregation took part in Lights for Liberty events to witness and pray for fair and humane treatment of refugees and asylum seekers at our Southern border. Our Nazareth sisters and associates attended the Kalamazoo event held in Bronson Park. Attendees lit candles to symbolize bringing light to the darkness being endured, and all were invited to leave letters inside the “caged bouquet” installment, a visual and powerful statement of support for the children being held in detention camps. We pray for a compassionate response to refugees at our border and call on Congress to enact just and humane immigration laws. To read our full statement, visit csjoseph.org.



Ground-breaking Kicks Off **Partnership with YWCA**

On June 27th, Sisters Kathy Brazda, a member of our leadership team, and Rita Ann Teichman, along with other staff joined with the YWCA, city officials and over 100 other community partners and residents to celebrate the ground-breaking of the YWCA Kalamazoo-Edison Early Childhood and Community Resource Center. The congregation has offered the YWCA a substantial two-year pledge to facilitate the program expenses of the initial operations of the Community Resource Center once open. The Center, which is part of a larger affordable housing project, will be a place where community partners will support parents and children. The goals of the Resource Center are to provide guidance and navigation services in a single location to facilitate access to needed resources. This partnership offers the congregation another opportunity to serve some of the most vulnerable members of the Kalamazoo community – children.



From left, Grace Lubwama, CEO, YWCA Kalamazoo, and Sisters Kathy Brazda and Rita Ann Teichman.



From left, Jennifer Brubaker, Executive Director of Gianna House, Sister Helen Susalla, CSJ, Sister Rita Jeanne Ferrante, CSJ, Father Stan Plachla, Pastor of St. Veronica Eastpointe, Sister Karen Hawver, SC, and Angie Marte.

Gianna House Celebrates Opening as First Residential Home for Pregnant Teens in Michigan

On May 3, Sisters Helen Susalla and Rita Jeanne Ferrante attended a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the licensing of Gianna House as a residential facility for pregnant teens ages 13 to 17. Gianna House has received grants and volunteer support from the congregation and is located at the former convent of St. Veronica Parish in Eastpointe. The congregation has a deep connection to St. Veronica Parish. For almost 90 years, our sisters taught and were in parish ministry there, with several still living in the convent until as recently as 2013. Gianna House first opened its doors four years ago as a resource center for pregnant women and new mothers in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties, and is now the first certified, nonprofit, long-term residence for pregnant teens in the state. Named after St. Gianna Baretta Molla, who refused a doctor-recommended hysterectomy during her fourth pregnancy in 1961 to save the life of her unborn child, Gianna House provides a safe and loving home for pregnant teens and their newborn infants. Staff and volunteers offer spiritual, medical, educational and parenting support to these underserved pregnant women. To learn more and find out how you can help, visit giannahouse.org.

Legacy of Caring

The legacy of the Sisters of St. Joseph that began with six women in LePuy, France more than 360 years ago continues today because of support from donors and friends like you. Your faithful prayers and generous financial gifts help ensure that our legacy of caring continues to touch the lives of countless individuals and families each year.

We are grateful for our annual donors, Circle of Friends members, and our Heritage Society members who have remembered the Sisters and the Congregation of St. Joseph in your will and estate plans. Our mission and vision are enriched through your commitment.

You Can Help

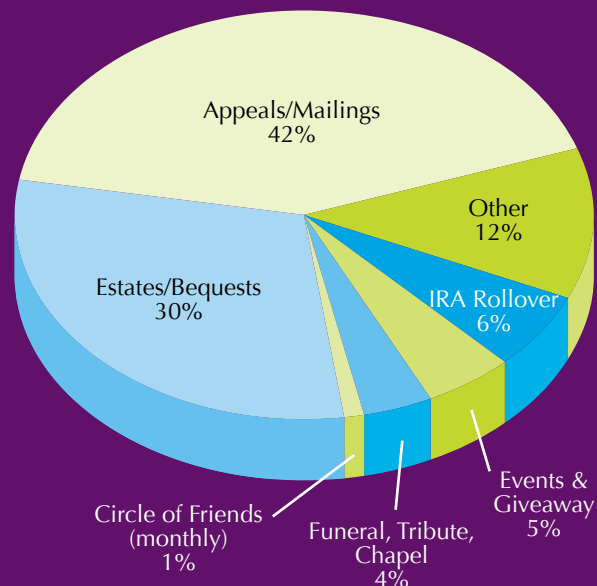
- > Use the enclosed envelope or make a gift online at csjoseph.org/make-a-gift
- > Make monthly gifts and become a member of our **Circle of Friends**
- > Make a legacy gift through your will or estate and join our **Heritage Society**

For more information:

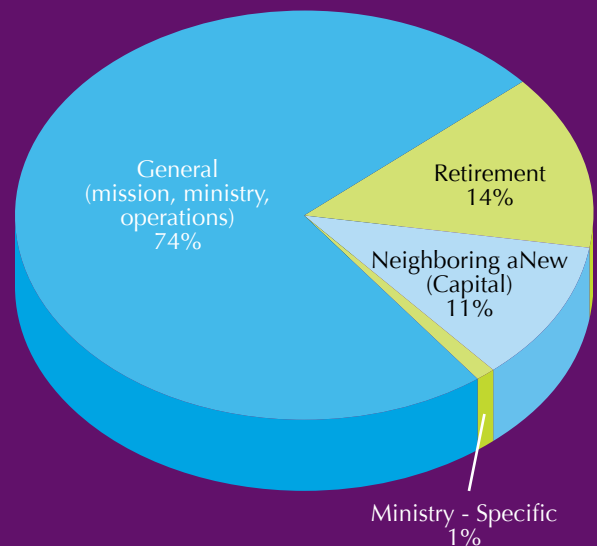
Pat Milenius, Director of Advancement
pmilenius@csjoseph.org or 216.252.0440

Annual Giving Report

Revenue Sources



Donor Designated Uses



*This reporting documents the sources and designated uses of charitable donations received by the Congregation of St. Joseph in the 2018 fiscal year. This includes gifts received that are designated to our sponsored ministries. 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 are used.



2929 Nazareth Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Please note
new address!

Spotlight Photo



Sister Ginny Jones and Nate Fuller of Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy, are dedicated stewards of Bow in the Clouds, a 60-acre pristine nature preserve and wetland located behind our Nazareth campus. It is used as a place of learning and retreat by neighborhood youth programs.

Photo courtesy of Eric Hennig and Vague Photography.

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Congregation of St. Joseph Heritage Society

The **Heritage Society** was founded in order to gratefully recognize friends who have generously included the Congregation of St. Joseph in their estate plans.

Your gift to us through your will or revocable trust, life insurance policy, IRA, charitable gift annuity, or charitable remainder trust enrolls you as a member of our *Congregation of St. Joseph Heritage Society*.

To learn more about our Heritage Society and how you can join, contact Pat Milenius at 216.252.0440, or email her at pmilenius@csjoseph.org.

Join Us For Service Day!

Mark your calendars now for **Saturday, October 12, 2019**, when we will once again host our annual day of service. Details on service locations, times and how to sign up will be shared on csjoseph.org once finalized (end of summer), so check back and join us as we give back to our community!