

Serving the Dear Neighbor

NEWS FROM ST. JOSEPH CENTER



CONGREGATION OF

St. Joseph

3430 ROCKY RIVER DRIVE, CLEVELAND



Together in Spirit

Greetings from St. Joseph Center! During these challenging days we find ourselves in, many of you have emailed, called, or written in to ask, “How are the sisters doing?” Thank you for your care and concern! Our sisters in Cleveland and all around our congregation are sheltering in place, practicing social distancing, staying active and doing whatever they can to help the community. That includes praying for all our friends, neighbors and supporters - like YOU!

Because St. Joseph Center is still currently closed to visitors, sisters who live “off campus” have found creative ways to stay connected to and support those who live at the center. Here are just a few examples of what our sisters, associates and staff have been up to these past few months!

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Scrapbook
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Sister Agnes Schrieber got a special surprise for her 90th birthday in May when she was visited by Sister Joyce Joecken (right) and Associate Mary Ann Fischer, who stopped by her window with messages of love, support and birthday wishes. Sister Agnes is also celebrating her 70th Jubilee this year (see page 4).



^ On St. Joseph Day (March 19), a group of sisters who live off campus stood outside our Cleveland center dining room (a safe distance from each other) and sang ‘Sancte Joseph’ to our sisters inside.



^ The event was organized by Sisters Susan Imburgia (left) and Judith Minear (right), who also led the song, and by Sister Theresa Hafner (center), who held the microphone that transmitted the music to the speakers inside.

Scrapbook

Quarantine 2020

Amy Bokmiller, LPN & Healthcare Coordinator at St. Joseph Center, visited with Sister Mary Schrader at Arden Courts where she resides.



St. Joseph Center administrative staff, Karen Urig, Mary Zavoda and Frank Taylor.



Sisters stay active with the help of Maggie Langley, who led them in a virtual exercise class.



Sisters Helen Ann Brown and Jan Henniger enjoy Bagpiper Michael Crawley, who stopped by to play for the sisters at the request of dear neighbors Len Olsavsky and Rachel Costanzo. Thank you, Len and Rachel!



Sister Alice Rooney celebrated her birthday with sisters while sitting at a safe distance from one another.



Pat Plisko, RN & Nurse Manager at St. Joseph Center, received an everyday Hero Basket filled with snacks and goodies. The baskets (and later thank you bags) conveyed our gratitude to all of our everyday hero employees!

Jubilee 2020

The following sisters from the founding community of Cleveland are celebrating Jubilee this year. Jubilee is the anniversary of a sister's entrance into religious life. Congratulations to all our sisters who are celebrating Jubilee from around the congregation this year!



Sister Madeline
Lammermeier, CSJ

75 Years



Sister Eileen Wentzel, CSJ
(formerly Sister Mary Delrey)

75 Years



Sister Antoinette
Campanella, CSJ
(formerly Sister Concetta)

70 Years



Sister Agnes Schrieber, CSJ
(formerly Sister Mary Martin)

70 Years



Sister Marietta Starrie, CSJ

70 Years



Sister Karen Lyons, CSJ
(formerly Sister Mary Rita)

60 Years

To view biographies, visit us at CSJoseph.org and click on "Connect With Us"

In Memoriam



Sister Joan Keating, CSJ

Entered into eternal life
on November, 2019, after
68 years of religious life.

*We Remember
and Celebrate*

Many centuries ago, our sisters took a leap of faith to work in their city to serve the needs of their neighbors. With your help we continue in this spirit today, loving and serving the needs of the *dear neighbor* in many cities and areas of the world.

Sometimes love calls each of us to trust and respond to those around us without knowing exactly how it will work out. This is especially true now, in these days of pandemic and the challenges that go along with it, and in the continuing crises of humanity and climate that exist. Our sisters and associates are taking risks and giving voice to systemic injustice, leading with compassion and networking with others to bring about life-giving change in our communities and world. Together, with you, we

stand with and for the oppressed and marginalized, and encourage each other to act with great kindness and love. We do this with faith in God and trust in the goodwill of friends like you. Your donations and prayer-filled support help us bring help and hope to each and every one of our *dear neighbors* who seek our compassion, our love and our service.

We extend our love and gratitude to you and wish you good health and hearts filled with hope. •



Ways 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 216.688.3477

Vocations Update

We are pleased to announce that novices Jennifer Berridge and Sarah Simmons will both profess first vows with the Congregation of St. Joseph this summer. Jennifer, who is from Cleveland, will profess in July at our center in Wheeling, W.Va. Sarah, who is from Kalamazoo, Mich, will profess in August at our center in La Grange Park, Ill. Jennifer was mentored by Sister Christine Riley and Sarah by Sister Marie Benzing. Both completed their year-long novitiate last May.

Please keep Jennifer and Sarah in your prayers as they move forward on their journey to becoming Sisters of St. Joseph! •

To learn more, visit CSJoseph.org/as-a-sister



< Jennifer Berridge



Sarah Simmons >

Prayer, Presence and Service



Sister Paula Terese Pilon, who works as an in-home hospice caregiver, has not been able to see any of her patients or their families in-person since March 19th. But she has found other ways to connect with them via phone calls and virtual visits.

At left, Sister Paula Terese officiated a virtual funeral in April for a patient she cared for since October 2019. This was at the request of the family, who was on the phone with her from the funeral home. What a beautiful and faithful example of love, service, compassion and presence.



Sister Felicia Petruziello (center) and Associate Paula Campbell (left) present a donation to a representative of Cleveland Diocese Catholic Charities, Migration and Refugee Services.



Sister Carrie Vall, a talented artist, pitched in by making masks for other sisters, neighbors and elderly relatives to use. Each mask was hand sewn by Carrie (no sewing machine) with care and love.

The work, mission and ministries of the Sisters of the Congregation of St. Joseph can continue far into the future with the help of supporters like you. Consider remembering the sisters in your legacy or planned giving. Contact Pat Milenius at pmilenius@csjoseph.org for more information.

Circle the City with LOVE

On Sunday, April 26th, people from around the globe joined us as we once again stood and circled the world with love. In addition to sisters and associates from each of our centers, individuals from 20 U.S. states and from Africa, Australia, England and Guam joined in. As in past demonstrations, silent time was again offered up in the hopes of magnifying the power of love and to help those suffering from the current pandemic.

Circle the City with Love was originally conceived of in 2016, the vision of Sister Rita Petruziello, who hoped for a peaceful event that could demonstrate the unifying and transformative power of love to the world. Since then, several in-person events have taken place along with this virtual event. We thank all those who participated and witnessed along with us! •

To learn more, visit CircleCityWithLove.com



< Associate Janice Kushner flashes a peace sign while participating via Zoom at her home.



Associate Cathy Nichols outside her home in Bay Village. >

Ministry Update

River's Edge

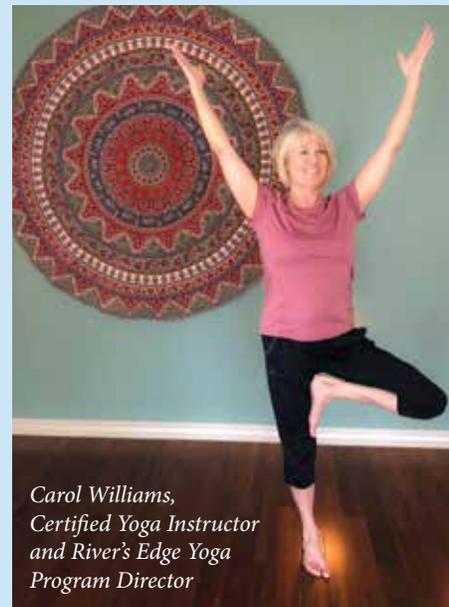
Although St. Joseph Center is currently closed to outside visitors, that hasn't stopped River's Edge Spirituality Center from continuing to serve its clients and the community. River's Edge has moved its array of classes, programs and services online so that patrons can practice wellness from the safety of their home.



Sarah Widener, River's Edge Executive Director, said the goal is to provide clients and the community access to services that help boost mind, body and spirit, something that is especially important right now. "We have launched free yoga and meditation classes, a book study, and a contemplative

practice program," she said. "These practices can help us stay centered, calm and present as we navigate this challenging time." She added that many River's Edge practitioners are also offering private virtual sessions, including spiritual direction, energy direction work and counseling.

"We invite anyone who is missing their regular practice, or who may be new to wellness but is looking for a way to care for themselves, to visit us online and check out all that we have to offer. We look forward to hearing from you!" •



Carol Williams, Certified Yoga Instructor and River's Edge Yoga Program Director

RiversEdgeCleveland.com



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Spotlight Photo



Sister Marilyn Nickol enjoys the wild Bluebells during a walk in Cleveland's Metroparks.

 This newsletter is printed on recycled paper

What will you do
with your one *wild* &
precious life?
- Mary Oliver



Sisters of St. Joseph live their lives in service to God and others. If you have a heart for God, ministry, justice and Church, and want to make a real difference in our world, we invite you to learn more about us. We would love to talk to you!

Visit us at CSJoseph.org