"Just living is not enough," said the butterfly.
"One must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower."
Province News Notes (PNN) is a publication of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Louis Province. Its purpose is to promote dialogue and unity within the St. Louis province and to keep members informed on those subjects that promote community and ministry.

We welcome your submissions! Submit articles and photos to Sarah Baker at sbaker@csjsl.org.

**Materials are subject to editing and will be published at the discretion of the editor.**

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ON THE COVER
"Just living is not enough," said the butterfly. "One must have sunshine, freedom and a little flower."
—Hans Christian Anderson

Photo: Butterfly in natural background. iStock.com/sindlera.

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At our recent chapter, we discussed the “big picture” topics for Congregational Chapter. I admit I sighed when we read the first big picture topic: “Church: our role as women religious in the church today.” I thought what more can be said? We have been struggling with this question for decades. But, then, I got an insight into my own struggle with the church from a daily reflection written by Richard Rohr: “To grow toward love, union, salvation, or enlightenment (I use the words almost interchangeably), we must be moved from Order to Disorder and finally to Reorder.” (Richard Rohr’s Daily Meditation, March 24, 2019)

These three stages helped me understand the changes I experienced in my faith development.

**Order:** At this stage, our “first naïveté,” we feel safe, innocent. Everything is basically good.

**Disorder:** Eventually, our ideally ordered universe will disappoint us, if we are honest. You lose a job, a loved one dies or you discover you have a chronic illness. This is the disorder stage. It is a necessary stage if real growth is to occur. But sometimes it is so uncomfortable we try to flee back to our contrived order. Or we might give up and simply say there is no universal order and tend to be negative, cynical or dogmatic.

**Reorder:** Of course, we don’t want to camp out in disorder and walk around angry or cynical. But it is necessary to go through it, not under, over or around it. There is no nonstop flight to reorder. To arrive there, we must endure, learn from the disorder stage and include the first naive order but also transcend it. Hold on to what is good about the first order but what also needs correcting.

Order, disorder and reorder is how I see my relationship to the church changing over my adult life.

**Order:** As a child, I received my faith from my parents. I went to daily Mass and Catholic school. I was secure in my faith. After I entered the community, I taught in both elementary and secondary schools. I studied and taught theology. In graduate school, I became conscious of the male-dominated language in the liturgy and insisted that the students use inclusive language in hymns and scripture readings. But teaching in an all-girls academy, I wasn’t directly affected by the clericalism in the church or the inequality of women.

**Disorder:** After teaching, I worked in parish ministry. One day the pastor told me my position was being eliminated. I was confused and angry. This was a painful time in my life. I felt that the pillars of my faith were knocked down. I could not avoid my anger or my disillusionment with the church hierarchy.

**Reorder:** I learned I could not stay angry forever. I went through this painful time to find the real treasure in the Christian tradition. I began to study feminist theology and the history of women’s ministry in the church. I stood for the ordination of women and the role of lay leadership in the church.

My faith was rekindled by turning to the Gospels, by the example of Jesus and so many saints and ordinary Christians who lived his message and followed his example. I didn’t think I would ever serve in church ministry again, but eight years later, I was asked to be a campus minister at a university. I discerned that it was time for me to move on and accept this ministry, believing I had something to bring to university students. I had a new awareness of the role of women in the church to push for reform against any kind of oppression.

Whatever loss, failure or death we experience, there is life and victory on the other side. This is the message of the Paschal Mystery, from life to death to resurrection, from order to disorder to reorder. This is our challenge, particularly, as we look at the big picture questions. How are we being called to be moved from naïveté to wisdom?
Corporation
Approved
- Nov. 16, 2018 Board Minutes
- Dec. 12, 2018 Board Minutes
- Dec. 2018 Financial Statements
- St. Joseph’s Academy (SJA), An Evening with the Angels—$1,500
- Holy Angels Church, Indianapolis—$1,000
- Rockhaven Ecozoic Center’s Annual Spaghetti Dinner—$200
- Fontbonne University PROM—$5,000
- Center for Women in Transition (CWIT)—$1,000
- English Tutoring Project—$5,000
- Excel Commons—$1,000

Reviewed/Discussed
- Motherhouse Holiday Schedule

Council
Approved
- Nov. 15-16, 2018 Minutes
- Dec. 12-13, 2018 Minutes
- Patrimony Request (1)
- Extended Travel Request (1)
- CSJ Van Donated to Annunciation House, El Paso

Reviewed/Discussed
- Annual Reflection on Community Ministry
- 2019 Spring Sectionals
- Province Chapter IV, March 2019
- Province Archive Liaison Position
- Formation Plan
- New Team Orientation Plan
- Motherhouse Holiday Schedule
- Novitiate Location
- Nazareth Living Center (NLC) Naming

Updated
- Sponsorship Update
- CLT Listening Sessions

Corporation
Approved
- Jan. 23, 2019 Board Minutes
- January 2019 Financial Statements
- Completion of Motherhouse Bldg. Phase 2 Work
- CWIT Gala—$5,000
- Marian Middle School Capital Campaign & Graduate Support Program—$2,500
- Montessori School Bldg., Gulu—$4,500

Reviewed/Discussed
- Fontbonne University Request

Council
Approved
- Jan. 22-23, 2019 Minutes
- Patrimony Requests (2)
- Extended Travel Requests (3)

Reviewed/Discussed
- PLT State of the Province Report
- Health and Wellness Position
- LCWR Statement: Sex Abuse of Catholic Sisters
- NLC Car Needs
- Initial Profession Request
- Congregational Novitiate
- Province Office Car Committee
- Province Chapter IV, March 2019
- Succession Planning
- Finance Office Replacement
- St. Louis Province Archives
- Initiatives of Past/Current Leadership List

Updated
- Midwest Coalition for Responsible Investment (MCRI) Office
- Mission Advancement

Corporation
Approved
- Feb. 20, 2019 Board Minutes
- March 6, 2019 Board Minutes
- Fontbonne University Line of Credit
- St. Matthew’s Dinner Auction—$500
- Journey to New Life—$5,000
- Microfinancing Partners in Africa Gala—$1,500
- Fr. Richard Creason Golf Tournament—$550
- S. Jean Abbott Belize Ministry—$1,000
- National Religious Vocation Conference Misericordia Scholarship Fund—$1,000
- CHAD’s Third-Annual Fundraiser—$2,500
- Future Church—$500
- Heroes for Hearing Fundraiser—$1,000
- El Paso Fund—$5,000

Council
Approved
- Feb. 19-20, 2019 Minutes

Reviewed/Discussed
- Dept. Head Evaluation
- Congregational Archives Space
- Novitiate House
- Agrégée Program

Updated
- Communications Dept.
Agrégées: New Ways of Living the Charism

By Sister Maureen Freeman

So what’s happening with agrégées? At last year’s retreat for those interested in the agrégée program, they reviewed the plans from four other congregations: Erie, Concordia, Boston and Springfield. They decided not to focus on structure right away but rather on “living the charism.” So in their retreat document, “Sacred the Call,” here is what they asked to do:

Therefore, in response to our 2013 Congregational commitment and the personal call of the Spirit each of us is experiencing, we express our willingness to experiment and to intentionally live into what Agrégée with the Carondelet Congregation means for us. This may be different for each person and in each local area. We will reconnect with one another in three months to share what is happening for us. After a year of experimentation, we will come together to reflect on our experiences and what we have learned as a way to guide us into the future. While we acknowledge that much of what we have expressed here is already part of our reality, we feel an urgency to begin this time of experimentation together at this time.

The response from the Congregational Leadership Team stated that there was a need for common information and a congregation-wide reflection concerning what it would mean to have agrégées within the Carondelet community.

This concept was affirmed by the Congregational Leadership Group and an information packet was assembled. Here is the CLT’s response to the possibility of experimentation at this time:

The Congregational Leadership Team affirms the ongoing reflection and exploration of agrégées within our congregation. A decision to formally initiate an agrégée program would benefit greatly if we also had a body of lived experience to reflect on. It is the hope of this Congregational Leadership Team that some among those who are currently interested are willing to pilot the agrégée way of life or certain aspects of it, before a program is composed. We ask that one or two companions be identified who will support ongoing discernment among members of this pilot group.

That pilot group will meet again in June at the third annual Agrégée Retreat for those throughout our congregation exploring and living into the agrégée covenant. It will be held at the St. Paul Provincial House.

For further information about agrégées, visit the Members Only Resource Section of csjsl.org for the informational packet that includes background, history and reflections, or email one of the Agrégée Committee members: Sisters Lisa Lazio, Becky Holley and Maureen Freeman, or Associate Alexandra Guliano.

The third annual Agrégée Retreat for those throughout our congregation who are exploring and living into the Agrégée covenant will be held at the St. Paul Provincial House.

All sisters, ACOF, and partners in ministry throughout the congregation are invited to join the group of 15 who have been exploring and living into the commitment. The retreat will be held Saturday, June 22 at 7 p.m., and will include a social and informational gathering. Pizza and refreshments will be provided, courtesy of the St. Paul province.

All members of the CSJ community are welcome to enjoy the evening and learn more about this way of living the charism.

Questions? Contact Alexandra Guliano at aguliano@csjsl.org.
2019 TABITHA GRANTS

For this funding cycle, the Tabitha Grant Committee disbursed a total of $200,000 to the following organizations.

Angelica Village, $3,000
Funds the Family Support Services Savings and Debt Reduction Program in the Denver, Colorado, area.

Carondelet Community Betterment Federation, Inc., $2,000
Provides support for the Carondelet Food Patch and Community Garden in South St. Louis.

Center for Conflict Resolution, $10,000
The Neighborhood Conflict Resolution & Restorative Justice HUB serves children, youth and adults in neighborhoods with high poverty and high incidences of violence in Kansas City.

Center for Women in Transition, $10,000
Supports the Mentoring and Advocacy Program for women who have been incarcerated in St. Louis.

Cut Bank Ministerial Association, $10,000
Provides emergency food and housing support to low-income residents of Cut Bank, Montana.

Don Bosco Community Center, $10,000
Provides nutritious meals to senior adults in the Kansas City area.

EarthLinks, Inc., $6,000
Provides paid, meaningful work to adults experiencing homelessness and economic poverty in Denver.

Excel, Inc., $12,000
Funds provide sustainability and development of Excel programs in need of resources in Okolona, Mississippi.

Gene Slay’s Girls & Boys Club of St. Louis, $6,000
Funds youth scholarships to the after-school and summer programs.

Hands of the Carpenter, $7,000
Funds the Good Neighbor Garage providing automotive repairs and related education to low-income single mothers in Denver.

Immigrant & Refugee Women’s Program, $12,000
Provides English tutoring and living skills education to immigrant and refugee women in the St. Louis metro area.

Institute for Peace and Justice, $4,000
Funds educational and support programs for female ex-offenders in St. Louis.

Journey to New Life, $15,000
Funds the dental emergency assistance program for female ex-offenders at Journey House in Kansas City.

K’s Theatrical Korps, $4,000
Funds the 2019 KTK Kids Summer Camp for low-income youth in St. Louis.

Metro Trans Umbrella Group, $10,000
Funds essential social and emotional support for trans-expansive community members in the St. Louis area.

New Ways Ministry, $9,000
Funds retreatants of the Womanjourney Weavings project for the LGBT Catholic community.

North Grand Neighborhood Services, $10,000
Funds provide safe, affordable housing improvements to low-income residents of the North St. Louis community.

Sacred Heart House of Denver, $10,000
Funds the in-house stabilization program for homeless women and children.

St. Francis Xavier College Church, $12,000
Provides documentation outreach assistance for homeless and low-income members of the St. Louis community.

St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf, $10,000
Provides early intervention support for children who are deaf.

St. Louis Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America, $10,000
Funds advocacy and education on the issues of injustice facing the people of Latin America.

Saints Teresa & Bridget Church, $8,000
Supports the North St. Louis parish’s youth ministry.

Whole Health Outreach, $10,000
Supports the Healthwise for Life Senior Program in the counties of South-Central Missouri.
The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet hosted their 13th Annual Generosity of Joseph Honors Gala on April 26, recognizing two individuals for their devotion to serving others and living out the mission of Jesus. More than 100 sisters, patrons, family, friends and associates gathered at the Carondelet Motherhouse to celebrate CSJ Associates BJ Atkinson and Nan Bone, both of Kansas City, who recognize human dignity in all.

BJ dedicates her life to advocating for her dear neighbor by reaching out to the poor and serving those in need as director of Emergency Assistance at St. Therese Little Flower Parish.

“We have to advocate for God’s people who cannot speak for themselves. To walk with people,” says BJ, “You have to be the rock, the anchor to them. I pray for the person who I know is going to be on the streets in a couple of weeks because they don’t have rent or enough heat in their home. You work with anybody who walks through the door, no matter who they are … without distinction.”

Since June 1995, BJ has served 100-plus families each month—up to 30 families a week—with emergency assistance for food, rent, electric bills and medicine. She also promotes justice with a particular concern for the poor by attending numerous social justice programs and meetings.

“In our world today, I feel that serving the dear neighbor is one of the most important things,” says Sister Helen Alder, CSJ, fellow parishioner at St. Therese and friend of BJ’s for over 20 years. “…Basically, love each person as a child of God. Our charism says to love God in all things and the dear neighbor without distinction. That’s what BJ is to me. She truly is kind and loving to everyone.”

Nan has served as president of St. Teresa’s Academy (STA) for the past 12 years, empowering the lives of 600-plus young women and sharing with them the charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

“Nan epitomizes the generosity of St. Joseph in her graceful leadership of the St. Teresa’s Academy family,” says Kevin Connor, chairperson of the STA Board of Directors. “She has led like Joseph, but is particularly like him in her humility, her modesty and her willingness to follow the Holy Spirit through the many joys and the periodic sorrows.”

Her marvelous work ethic has led to numerous accomplishments in support of the CSJs’ mission including the Passing of the Legacy Ceremony, a 90-hour community service requirement, the building of the Windmoor Center, top priority for diversity and inclusion initiatives, and so much more.

“I think maybe I was put here to help the girls understand what this mission is and how they have to go out and make a difference in the world,” says Nan. “These are the smartest, brightest and most caring girls that you will ever meet. They take on every initiative, fighting for every cause. I’m the luckiest person in the world.”

Nan’s decade-long legacy will come to an end as she will retire from her position following the 2018-19 school year.

The gala also featured two fund-a-needs. More than $15,000 was raised in support of the Sisters of St. Joseph who live and work at Journey House in Kansas City, an interim residence for up to 15 women returning to society from prison, and the CSJ Gulu Project, providing more families with water filtration systems.

The awards presentation also included a highlight video of the honorees and their ministries. (Visit csjslo.org/news to watch the video.)

The evening ended with dinner and a blessing as the CSJ sisters and associates sang Sancte Joseph.
In March, CSJ associates and sisters of the Wisconsin Community of St. Joseph made their annual trip to Excel in Okolona, Mississippi, to assist Sisters Liz Brown and Nancy Schreck with projects that needed attention. The theme for this year’s work was “Fencing in Okolona,” with the building of a 64 foot-long fence and sealing a 175 foot-long fence.

One of the more meaningful tasks was building steps with a railing for an 86-year-old frail woman living alone. Her steps had rotted and didn’t have a railing. Now she is able to exit and enter her home safely. She was thrilled with the finished product.

The trip also included visiting with the folks of Okolona at the resale store sponsored by Excel—the only place in town to buy lunch—walking along the streets interacting with others, and attending the Okolona Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet where a member of the Excel staff was honored. All events intensified the feeling that we are all one. And, truly, together, we are more!
INITIAL & ONGOING COMMITMENTS
Kansas City, Missouri | May 1 & 3

AVILA UNIVERSITY | MAY 1

ST. TERESA’S ACADEMY | MAY 3
INITIAL: S. Ruth Stuckel (formation director), Associates Andrea Arredondo, Paula Holmquist, Megan Schaefer, Kathy Rohr, María Laura Lopez-Gonzales, Nicole Nichol (formation director) and Kay Komotos (director of association).
Sister Mary Alice Collar professed her first vows with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet on May 11 in a ceremony that was held at the Carondelet Motherhouse in St. Louis.

The youngest of the late Charles and Rosemary Collar’s seven children, Mary Alice grew up in Pittsburg, Kansas, and attended Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. She was taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Wichita, Kansas, at St. Mary’s Colgan School.

Her journey in religious life began when she entered with the Wichita sisters in the 1990s. After six years, she decided it was not the right fit for her at that time. “I still had a hunger to form myself,” she says.

With a bachelor’s degree in health science in dental hygiene from Wichita State, S. Mary Alice continued working as a hygienist as well as in youth ministry. In 2001, she moved to St. Louis to attend Aquinas Institute of Theology in pastoral studies and met a few Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

She ended up living with some of the sisters and, ultimately, she found that the CSJ mission was deep inside her. “This unifying love is about bringing people together. In doing that, I’m uniting myself with them, but I’m also bringing them together with God and with others,” she says. Mary Alice re-entered religious life with the CSJs in 2017.

She is excited by the global connectedness she has seen develop in religious life over these years. “I love Zoom conferencing with our Peruvian and Japanese sisters. I loved living with international students at Manna House of Prayer in Concordia.”

S. Mary Alice’s eclectic resumé includes dental hygiene as well as youth ministry, hospital chaplaincy and religious education at all levels. Plus, there’s her experience growing up in the family business, Winco Fireworks. Recently, she accepted a position at Washington University—Catholic Student Center. “I continue to hear I am most gifted with young adults and that they respond to me well,” she says.

In community, she wants to be a bridge that leads the Sisters of St. Joseph into the future. “I hope that we, as Sisters of St. Joseph, continue to move away from institutional power and towards a renewal of what Jesus had begun in relational power,” she says.

In all that she does, S. Mary Alice will do it with the spirit of welcoming. “I’m constantly widening my radius of who I come to know because I don’t want to miss the blessing that is the stranger,” she says. “Building relationships is part of being a CSJ. It’s who I am through and through.”

Coming from a family whose business is fireworks, S. Mary Alice showed how, like in a firework, community ignites members to burst their best selves into God’s Great Love.
Sister Clare Bass, who entered the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 2010, professed her perpetual vows on March 30 at a Mass in Holy Family Chapel at the Carondelet Motherhouse. It was a celebration of joy for the sisters, associates, friends and family who were there to surround Clare with love on this special day.

Originally from Biloxi, Mississippi, S. Clare is a graduate of Mississippi State University with both a bachelor’s degree in political science and a master’s degree in public policy and administration. She is currently working on a master’s in social work at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville and hopes to be a child and family therapist.

S. Clare is passionate about social justice and is a member of the province’s Racial and Cultural Justice Committee.

“I am humbled by the great love and support of God, my family and the Sisters of St. Joseph, and friends along the way who have all helped me reach this momentous life occasion of professing final vows,” Clare says. “My heart is filled with gratitude for all of life as I take this next step.”
Another CSJ squad of volunteers went to El Paso, Texas, in May to serve the influx of migrants through Annunciation House, a sanctuary program that offers migrants and refugees hospitality, advocacy and education. From St. Louis, Sister Patrice Coolick and Associate Marie Martir took the journey, while from Albany, Sisters Doreen Glynn and Maureen Mastine made the trip.

Srs. Doreen and Maureen and Marie worked at the Mesa Motel, used by Annunciation House to provide services to more than 100 people daily. S. Patrice served at Annunciation’s warehouse facility, which was filled to capacity with 500 people.

Marie spent 8-10 hours a day at the site, with much of her time being spent distributing water and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to the weary sojourners.

Marie says, “When I talked to Sister Moe (Maureen Freeman) about going, I said, ‘I don’t know if I am up to the task.’ Moe told me to ‘just be a presence of love.’ So there I was, helping all these people going through difficult times who were unable to be in the present moment, and when our hands would come together while handing out water and sandwiches, we’d smile and the room was permeated with the understanding of what they had been through.”

At the detention center, migrants’ shoelaces are confiscated, so Annunciation House volunteers distribute them as well. Marie recalls, “While I was passing out shoelaces, a gentleman gave me a smile and a nod, which said to me, ‘No need to worry about it.’ When I looked down, I could see he didn’t even have any shoes.”

In their reports back home, Srs. Doreen and Maureen recounted the struggle some of the immigrants have “trying to write for us the names and telephone numbers they carry.
Sister Patrice photographed the ankle bracelets the adults are given at the detention center. Sisters Doreen and Maureen described them as “the clunky monitors the adults wear on their ankles so our government can track their every move. so carefully on tiny, precious scraps of paper they pull from their bosom or pocket—their hope for a place in the United States.”

They also shared how the loving care offered throughout the process was transformational: “The extreme weariness of the migrants with their few possessions in a plastic bag and their frightened kids holding on, brought to the shelter by border patrol, compared to how they look a day or two later, showered, in clean clothes, with a care package of food, happy to board a plane or bus to take them to their relatives or friends who bought their ticket.”

S. Patrice’s main role was to assist with the airport transportation for between 40 to 80 people each day. The stress of delayed and cancelled flights along with the usual airport glitches is multiplied by what is at stake for these families.

S. Patrice recounts, “There were flight cancellations and a number of the families were rescheduled for the next day, but they couldn’t return to their shelters because their cots were occupied with new people. The men and boys spent the night at the airport and some of the women and children I put in a hotel next to the airport.”

“There are mishaps daily,” she says. “When I start the morning I wonder what the new challenge will be. It is never dull. Tiring, but never dull … somehow or other, it all works out. It amazes me.”

S. Patrice expressed she has witnessed many joys but has seen the sorrows as well. She met a Guatemalan woman who was separated from her daughter. “The 18 year-old-girl was kept in detention because anyone 18 and older is considered an adult.” She encountered a small child crying quietly at the airport, and asked him why he was so sad. “He said, “I had to leave my new friend at the shelter,” she recounts.

A hallmark of the El Paso experience is collaboration. S. Patrice says of those she encountered, “Amazing women from every community. Amazing volunteers that come on their own. Amazing people of El Paso. Many amazing and resilient refugees.”

“I could not believe the generosity of people that came to help from making simple sandwiches to the more complicated task of intake,” says Marie. “I met so many wonderful people with wonderful spirits, and all were grateful. The experience opened my heart.”
Emerging Ideas on Inclusive Language
How to Broaden the Scope of Awareness

By Sister Carol Brouillette

The Easter-Pentecost season is an opportune time to explore ways to enhance and improve our communal prayer. We attempt this challenge by deepening awareness of the importance of words, and their ability to open up or limit the doors of welcome to all who gather. The reflections here offer an invitation to expand the choices we make to express our growth and sensitivity as a faith community.

New Narratives
There is a growing awareness of sexist language that is male-oriented (he, him, us men), whether in parables and stories of the “Good News” or when addressed to the Divine. This exclusive language does not honor all persons who come together to pray and worship. For some, it is a painful realization that our words about God in prayer no longer fit our expanding awareness of a multifaceted Creator who offers unconditional love and welcome “without distinction” to all created beings. Theologian Elizabeth Johnson would say even the word “creatures” is reference to “all flesh,” (not just humans) namely ALL creation ... water, stones, plants and planets, etc. that come from the Divine Source.¹


New narratives are emerging everywhere: new patterns of speech, suggestions for conflict resolution, new concepts of the ways of prayer and methods of growing the peace and unity of the planet. Educational and business entities recognize the need for training their students and associates in spoken and written patterns that are inclusive. “According to widely accepted norms of current usage, masculine pronouns no longer communicate a sense of ‘anyone.’ Indeed, many people find such usage not only inaccurate but offensive.”²

When those pronouns refer to God, whom “no one has ever seen,” we need to be reminded that all effort to portray God and name God is metaphor, the language of poetry and borrowed from human experience.

New Translations
New translations of scripture are careful to use words that accurately represent the sense of original. Mark L. Strauss says, “The real issue of gender-inclusive language is not about the role of men and women, but about translating the Word of God as accurately as possible, about rendering the

² Marquette University Handbook
meaning of the original Hebrew and Greek into the most precise English equivalents possible.” Strauss offers several brief examples:

- “a man (Anthropos) is justified by faith” easily translates as “a person is justified by faith.” Rom. 3:28
- “fratres” can mean blood brothers or, figuratively “believers.”
- “Fathers/ancestors” can be actual fathers or refer to past generations (pateres)³

The Gospel speaks of Jesus, who lived in a historical period, shared our humanity and about whom believers proclaimed, “We have seen the Lord.” For them it was not metaphor, but awe-filled praise for his presence among them.

On Good Friday, during the reading of the Passion, we sang Psalm 91, “Be with Me” by Marty Haugen. The composer chose to say “Lord,” but in the context of its being the prayer of Jesus in His suffering, it seems better translated as “God” to whom Jesus is praying, thus “Be with me, God.” We acknowledge Jesus who died and rose from death as “Christ the Lord.”

Since God is mystery and all language about God is metaphor, we would be well-served to expand the way we address the Deity. Examples such as Gracious God, Breath of Life, Consoling Presence, Ground of All Being and Inner Peace⁴ remind us that we have more options than “Almighty God” or other names of power.

**New Commitments**

To embrace and promote transformation, we must commit to updating our theologies and to put in the hard work.

Although other congregations may be years ahead of us, we need to start the conversation now with dialogue and transparency, guided by “Directions for the Future” from our Province Chapter of Affairs to:

- Nurture right relationships, advocating diversity and inclusion …
- Stay informed in order to influence in public and prophetic ways the critical issues of the day with an emphasis on systemic change …

A first step into inclusivity, as with learning any skill, is awareness. The next step is trying it out, hearing one’s own voice speaking in new ways. Finally, repetition can lead to facility and ease. Isn’t that how we learned to speak our native tongue, to be good at sports, at teaching, or playing music?

How will we help to effect change in our liturgy if we are not aware that words matter? Let us be wordsmiths for peace, justice, creation, and an always-loving God!

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Marianne Dwyer was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on September 28, 1934, to parents John and Mary Evelyn (Bergen) Dwyer. Her younger siblings, Sis (Fran), John, Patrick and James arrived over the next 16 years. She recalled having a happy childhood, and when old enough, riding all around St. Louis on the local bus system. After graduating from St. Edward Elementary School, she went to Rosati-Kain High where, among other things, she loved being in the Glee Club. She especially remembered Sisters Madeleine Sophie Goldkamp, Mary Urbana Linkenheil, Anna Barbara Grinstead and St. Kevin O’Brien. “They treated me like a person …”

Marianne wanted to enter the community after high school but, her mother had some reservations. So Marianne spent a year working for Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. That was followed by a year studying at Harris Teachers College; three years teaching at St. Edward Elementary; a year studying at St. Louis University and, finally, three years teaching at Seven Holy Founders.

Deciding it was time, she entered the Sisters of St. Joseph on September 15, 1961, and was received into the novitiate as Sister Evelyn John on August 6, 1962. She earned her bachelor’s degree in English from Fontbonne College (1966) and a master’s in English literature from Ohio State University (1975).

She briefly taught primary at St. Margaret of Scotland (1966) and was then assigned to St. Thomas Aquinas High School (also 1966), followed by St. Joseph’s Academy (1970), all in St. Louis. Sister Rita Louise Huebner knew sister at St. Joseph’s Academy:

We both were English teachers. I truly appreciated her support when I was chair of the department. As a teacher, she designed some of her offerings and attracted students to sign up for her class.

In 1977, S. Evelyn John moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, to teach English at Roncalli High. In 1979, she spent a couple of months as a staff member in the Province Treasurer Office, followed by secretarial work at St. Cecilia School before returning to the elementary classroom at Saints John and James in St. Louis (1981).

S. Marianne’s next ministry was coordinator of publications for the Sisters of St. Joseph (1983). Remembering her from that time, S. Mary Ann Hilgeman shared,

Marianne was always helpful ... Despite the load of work she had to do for our publications, she was always patient and accommodating to me, and made my work both easier and better.

In 1992, S. Marianne accepted an invitation from the St. Louis Public Schools to be the adult education coordinator. Even though she took a short time out of education to answer a community need as an administrative secretary at Nazareth Living Center (1993), adult education became her passion.

S. Marianne continued in adult education at the Literacy Council of Greater St. Louis (1994). Next, she ministered as a teacher at the Carondelet Family Literacy Program from 1991 to 2005. At the same time, from 2001 to 2003, she also was an ESL teacher in adult education at Blow Community Education Center. The rest of her time in adult education also included outreach at St. Joseph Center as an academic instructor (2003-2005).

In 2005, S. Marianne’s involvement at Carondelet Family Literacy Program continued as academic coordinator/ teacher until she retired in 2008. She moved to Nazareth Living Center in 2010 to carry out her ministry of prayer and presence.

Marie Martir, CSJA shares, [It was] "a blessing to have had her loving, gentle Spirit among us."

Sister Helen Oates
Province Leadership Honors Motherhouse Employees

On May 1, an old tradition was re-instituted. Each year, on the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, Province Leadership will honor motherhouse staff in five-year increments of their date of employment. For 2019, four individuals were recognized: Sue Allender for 35 years; Jeanette Jamerison, 15 years; and Gerry Lee and Jim Hampton, both five years.

We are grateful to each of our employees for their dedication and commitment to our mission: “The mission of the motherhouse community is to develop welcoming relationships by respecting and serving all Sisters of St. Joseph employees and guests.”

A special congratulations to Sue, Jeanette, Gerry and Jim!

**Sue Allender**
Housekeeper

What do you enjoy most about working for the CSJs?
Hearing the sisters’ stories about the past and present.

What are your fondest memories of working at the motherhouse?
Becoming a CSJ associate in 1993 and having Sister Mary Anne Smith as my mentor.

What does it mean to you to be a part of the Sisters of St. Joseph community as both an associate and an employee?
I feel a lot of love from the sisters. They show me their charism and, most of all, the love of God and of neighbor without distinction.

What is your favorite room in the motherhouse?
Holy Family Chapel. I feel peaceful and feel the presence of sisters that are deceased.

**Jeanette Jamerison**
Lead Cook

**Gerry Lee**
Housekeeper

**Jim Hampton**
Senior Computer Technician

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Years working at the motherhouse: 35

# of Province Leadership Teams: 7

# of Motherhouse administrators: 5

15 YEARS

Jeannette Jamerison
Lead Cook

5 YEARS

Gerry Lee
Housekeeper

5 YEARS

Jim Hampton
Senior Computer Technician

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Remembering Our Sister Saints
By Sister Joan Kaucher

On May 5, about 60 CSJ sisters, associates and friends assembled to celebrate our “Sister Saints.” We gathered at Resurrection Cemetery in St. Louis since this is the place where most of the deceased sisters of our province are buried. We were very conscious, however, of all the sisters who are buried in other states, as well as in Peru and Chile.

During the prayer service, time was given for each person assembled to reflect back on her own missions, ministries and educational background to remember those sisters whose lives had touched theirs. In song, we proclaimed our gratitude for the God-given talents that these women shared with us and the dear neighbor. Though the earth below our feet may have been a bit soggy, our hearts were raised in gratitude for all these women in whose steps we are following.

Remembrance of Sister Mary Tobias Hagan
By Sister Rose Cento

On April 24, 2009, our dear Sister Mary Tobias was embraced by our loving God. On April 24, a remembrance celebration was held at Rockhaven Ecozoic Center where she was part of the founding administrative team.

Diza Velasco and Sister Jan Stocking, who now operate Rockhaven, planned a very moving memorial service. Many of Tobias’ friends were in attendance. Sisters in attendance were (pictured l-r): Joan Filla, Dorothy Daly, Rose Cento, Mary Louise Basler and Elizabeth Ganss. All took part in a drumming session, after which we shared many stories and memories of Tobias.

Sister Tobias was a woman of integrity, great faith and wisdom. She will be remembered and loved by many for a long time.
The Sisters of St. Joseph Vocation Team is inviting women interested in religious life to join us for a weekend. At home ... at work ... wherever you are ... You can join us as a MORE Weekend Prayer Partner with your support and prayer.

Register online at sites.google.com/csjlife.org/more to receive email reminders to join us in prayer. Thank you for joining us and be assured of our prayers for you during this time as well.

The Community of St. Joseph invites you to celebrate the graced call of the 2019-2023 St. Louis Province Leadership Team

Amy Hereford, CSJ
Fran Maher, CSJ
Margaret Schulz, CSJ

Councilors
Jeanne Janssen, CSJ
Maria Jeanne Tipton, CSJ

Saturday, June 29 at 10:30 a.m.
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet Motherhouse
Holy Family Chapel
Lunch to follow

RSVP by Friday, June 14 to 314-481-8800 or motherhousersvp@csjso.org.

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF CARONDELET
MORE WEEKEND
A VOCATION DISCERNMENT EXPERIENCE
JUNE 14-16 | ST. LOUIS
BE A PRAYER PARTNER

The Sisters of St. Joseph Vocation Team is inviting women interested in religious life to join us for a weekend. At home ... at work ... wherever you are ... You can join us as a MORE Weekend Prayer Partner with your support and prayer.

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ST. LOUIS PRIDE PARADE
SUNDAY, JUNE 30
Downtown St. Louis

The CSJs will be marching again this year in the St. Louis Pride Parade. If you are planning to attend, contact Jenny Beatrice at jbeatrice@csjso.org in advance so she can order you a t-shirt (please indicate size needed). If you attended last year, it will be the same shirt, so you won't need to order if you still have yours. More details coming soon!

THANK YOU

From S. Virginia Fannin: Your remembrances of my 70th Jubilee were overwhelming and appreciated! You will be remembered in my prayers and Eucharist! May the Lord bless you!
JUNE
1-3  Associate Gathering, Green Bay (LS)
6-8  Congregational Chapter Planning Mtg. (ML)
11  QI/Mission Meeting, NLC (ML)
12  Health & Wholeness, NLC (ML)
12  Chapter Social Committee (LS)
13  LCWR Breakfast (ML, RS, LS)
18  PLT Appreciation Event, NLC (All)
19-20  Council/Corporation Board Mtgs. (All)
26  Nazareth Board Mtg. (ML)
26  PLT Farewell Luncheon (All)
29  Province Leadership Affirmation and
Thanksgiving Ceremony (All)
30  Brunch with incoming PLT (All)

Pride Parade (MF, MML)

The Importance of Recording Local House Annals
From the St. Louis Archives

The Archive Handbook states that Annals "...record the history of local houses, groups or individuals and are a summary of the events in the life of the community and as such rank high in the archival center." This material answers the who, what, when, where, and why of each local unit or individual living singly and/or working apart from a group. This category includes journals, diaries, and photographs.

This information needs to be kept in a safe place in the local unit and an annual summary of it sent to the archive office. When a local unit is discontinued or closed, these should be sent to the Carondelet Consolidated Archive Office.

Please send House Annals to S. Rita Louise Huebner at 6400 Minnesota Ave., St. Louis, MO 63111 or rhuebner@csjsl.org.

CARONDELET CONCERT
IN THE PARK
Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph

Join us for this crowd-favorite band as we gather and show support for our community and meet our neighbors!

Sunday, June 16 | 6-8 p.m.
Carondelet Park
3500 Holly Hills, St. Louis

Featuring
Miss Jubilee
Hot Jazz, Hokum
& Low-Down Blues