How do we express in deed and word this mission, today?

Through a deep and active rootedness in God, in our charism and in the Gospel.

Katie Gordon, organizer with the national Nuns and Nones movement (that helps Catholic Sisters and spiritually diverse millennials meet) acknowledges that she rarely pauses “just to be” and sees a growing need for spaces of and approaches to discernment. She quotes Geez Magazine, “In this age of fast faith, we are hungry for forms of contemplative, cultural resistance.” In response, Katie suggests, “Women religious communities can offer this unique wisdom that is deeply needed today.”

How will we share our lives of prayer, ritual and community?

Our active lives full with a growing conscious resistance to injustice?

Our everyday ways of moving always toward profound love of God and love of neighbor without distinction?

We have been and are all the more Called Together for the Life of the World.

Susan, Suzanne, and Cathy
“I was walking through the woods behind Carondelet Village as I often do and, by the statue of St. Frances, I met a neighbor, George, who was walking his dog,” explains Sister Carol Podlasek. “I’ve seen him with his dog a few times. We got into a conversation about the statue which was in a pretty bad state with paint scratched off in many places. George told me he was a painter and asked if he could repaint the statue. I checked with the Team and they said yes. George did a wonderful job though I haven’t seen him since he finished to thank him for sharing his talents. I think he lives across the street. I hope everyone will say a prayer of gratitude for George and his dog.”

After garnering help from some traffic-stopping neighbors who guarded mom and her ducklings while crossing a busy afternoon Randolph Avenue, this family took a tour of the CSJ campus.

Together Survey Responses

Thanks for responding to the survey about this publication, Together. We received 58 responses (18%). Most readers like the length of the publication and the articles, appreciate external news, are okay with the length of the ministry updates, like the frequency of prayer and spirituality items, and like the monthly Province calendar as an insert. Some inquired if the birthdays could be included in the Province calendar but, alas, space limitations do not allow for this. Detailed results will be shared with the team. Again, thanks for taking the time to respond.
From the Los Angeles Province: Mount St. Mary’s University recently purchased the house where Mother St. John Fontbonne was born in France. The International Centre SSJ offers extensive information and photos of the blessing of the site last June. The University hopes to provide study-abroad opportunities for students to visit the home and immerse themselves in experiencing the spirit of the founders, according to an article in Mount Magazine.

The Unified Vision for Life Long Formation (UVLLF) effort outlines “programming we plan to offer regarding initial formation over the next two years. As indicated in the UVLLF, it is our hope that much of this programming will not only be for those in initial formation and their formators but also for the sisters who live with those in initial formation. This was a strong recommendation that we received from leaders that now is a reality. The two-year schedule for ongoing formation will be ready soon.”

In an article regarding US Policy at the Intersection of Immigration and Racism, author Tracy Kemme, SC, recommends these actions:

- **Engage in anti-racism training as a congregation.** Examine personal and group biases. Discern what needs to change to more authentically welcome members not of the dominant culture.

- **Support activism efforts led by those most affected by the injustice,** for example, United We Dream led by a national network of immigrant youth.

- **Subscribe to updates from Justice for Immigrants** and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network to stay up-to-date on immigration happenings, action alerts, and church responses. Raise your voice against racist, inhumane policies and for comprehensive reform.

- **Donate to organizations caring for asylum seekers at the southern border:** Annunciation House, Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley and Kino Border Initiative are a few possibilities.
Minnesota Good Age

The July edition of Minnesota Good Age magazine features writer Dave Nimmer's thoughtful piece, "Strength through service." The article, about the "good Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet," shares the author's desire to live at Carondelet Village, his fond memories of Sister Mary Heinen, CSJ (deceased), features an interview with Sister Jill Underdahl, CSJ, and plugs the upcoming Septemberfest event. It is available online at https://issuu.com/mngoodage/docs/ga_0719_issuu

St. Paul Province

MinnPost

In his June 24 article, Minneapolis shows its Pride and affirmation in 2019 parade, author Jim Walsh covered the 2019 Pride Parade and included photos and quotes from various attendees including Consociates Mari Ann Graham, Kathleen Olsen, and Cheryl Maloney who represented the CSJ community. The article can be found at www.minnpost.com

Global Sisters Report

The following are excerpted. To read the full articles visit www.globalsistersreport.org

Sister inspires Kenyan nomadic girls to join religious life

Sr. Teena Menomparampil (in Kenya) has rescued hundreds of young village girls from the cultural realities of early marriage, female genital mutilation, child trafficking and child labor that plague so many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. After offering them care and education, she finds many of the girls gravitate toward sisterhood.

Pope names women as full members of congregation for religious

by Cindy Wooden Catholic News Service

“Pope Francis named six superiors of women’s religious orders and a consecrated laywoman to be full members of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. Previously, the members had all been men. The Vatican announced the pope’s appointment of the women July 8: Sisters Kathleen Appler, the U.S.-born superior of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul; Yvonne Reunngaat, superior of the Salesian Sisters; Francoise Massy, superior of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Mary; Luigia Coccia, superior of the Comboni Sisters; Simona Brambilla, superior of the Consolata Missionary Sisters; Rita Calvo Sanz, superior of the Company of Mary Our Lady; and Olga Krizova, general president of the Volunteers of Don Bosco, a group of consecrated laypeople.”

Sr. Marie Agnes Buasap, a Sister of St. Paul de Chartre, teaching young people in Thailand to avoid being trafficked.

“I work at Assumption School here in Bangkok, where I built a network of teachers: nine groups with 11 or 12 teachers each. At first, they resisted, thinking that adding
In the News

Other News of Interest
- The Science Explorer in its article, **Neuroscience Reveals the Differences Between Republican and Democrat Brains** by Kelly Tatera claims, “Back in 2013, a team of political scientists and neuroscientists got together to study how liberals and conservatives use different parts of the brain when making risky decisions. Their findings suggest that these brain regions can be used to predict which political party an individual prefers, and that being a Republican or Democrat truly does have an influence on how the brain functions.

“Interestingly, the opposite groups didn’t differ in the risks they took, but there were striking differences in the brain activities that lit up during the decision-making process. The Democrats showed significantly greater activity in the left insula, a region associated with emotional processing as well as social and self-awareness, while the Republicans showed significantly greater activity in the right amygdala, a region that plays a role in the body’s fight-or-flight system.” “In fact, the researchers say that the brain activity in these two regions alone could predict whether a person is a Democrat or a Republican with 82.9 percent accuracy. . .”

Province News

Busy season at Carondelet Center!

At this time of year, we start to experience high volumes of requests for meeting space and catering at Carondelet Center. Scheduling a meeting or event is easy. Just give us a call. We’ll ask for a few details and we'll take care of everything else! Carondelet Center management and staff strive to treat all with great respect. To provide the level of service you deserve and we want to provide requires at least 14 business days (Monday—Friday) advance notice. Knowing your meeting expectations will ensure we have appropriate staffing levels and allow our local farmers, catering partners, and other vendors to serve your meeting needs.

We appreciate your business and ask that you let us know your needs as soon as possible so we can all enjoy a busy and peaceful season at Carondelet Center. Please contact Jeni, our Event Coordinator at 651-696-2791, or carondeletevents@csjstpaul.org for information and assistance.

education in trafficking would take more of their time. But they discovered how to integrate the information in all their subjects.

“Right now, the issue that we are working on is cybertrafficking. The police came to talk with me about this, and I shared the information with the teachers. We learned how combating cybertrafficking is hard because at first, all communication is online. Then, perpetrators lure the girls to meet them in person, and once they do, they are trapped. The girls feel ashamed and worried that their parents and teachers will find out what is happening to them.”
SCU Sells St. Mary’s to Fairview

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Paul Province, made a gift of the buildings and land of the Minneapolis campus in 2018 to St. Catherine University. Recently, President Roloff and St. Catherine University announced that it closed on a sale of the Minneapolis campus’ buildings and land to Fairview Health Services. “Selling the campus to Fairview continues the history of that land and the buildings to support health care in our community,” comments Susan Hames, CSJ, Province Liaison to St. Catherine University. “In doing so, it extends the health care ministry we began at St. Mary’s Hospital.” This sale will not affect the timeline of the integration of the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses. With the ownership now in Fairview's hands, they are leasing Minneapolis spaces back to St. Catherine at no charge while the University completes the integration. The plan to be one University in St. Paul by the end of 2020 will proceed as scheduled.

CAPC Welcome!

The Community Assembly Planning Committee (CAPC) welcomes the following new at-large members: Eric Celeste, Friend of St. Joseph and Cindy Herbst, Consociate. There is still room on the committee for one or two more at-large members. The next meeting of the CAPC is Wednesday, August 7, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Carondelet Center. Light supper is provided. Contact Joan Pauly Schneider, jpaulyschneider@csjstpaul.org, for information.
Questions for Sister Joanne

We recently spoke with Sister Joanne Wieland, who joined the Sisters of Mary of the Presentation in 1959, transferred to the CSJ community in 1998, and is celebrating her Jubilee this year with the 65th Jubilarians. In her professional life, which spanned approximately 50 years, she served in nursing.

**What’s your favorite:**

**Song:** *Lean on Me* (Bill Withers).

**Book or author:** I like mysteries. Kevin Wolf is a favorite.

**Place:** My home where I grew up. It was a farm in Dazey, ND.

**Food:** Ice Cream. My favorite flavor is Maple Nut.

**Memory:** I was a runner and participated in grade school sports. I particularly enjoyed when the small towns got together for Play Days (Achievement Days).

**If you could pick any living or dead person to have dinner with, besides Jesus or Mary, who would it be?** My grandmother, Maria Berger.

**What’s your most important life lesson?** To always be kind to others.

**What is your biggest hope for the future?** That I stay healthy.

**If you could do one thing over in this life, what would it be?** I think I’d work at understanding my own skills and choose jobs better. Public health nurse was a fit; director of nursing was not a fit.

What was your biggest challenge? Changing my religious order from the Sisters of Mary of the Presentation to the Sisters of St. Joseph. It was like a marriage divorce. You cut yourself off from your original order. I miss not being able to participate in their festivities and funerals for so many of my friends. Moving from North Dakota to Minnesota was also a challenge.

**What’s the best thing about yourself?** I like to work and I enjoy doing cross stitching.

**What’s your biggest life accomplishment?** Changing religious organizations.

If there was one thing you’d like others to know about you, what would it be? I may look serious but I’m not that serious!

If there is one thing you would like to share with others that I didn’t ask you, what would it be? I enjoy living in community at Marshall House, including Pepper (the cockapoo), prayer and gardening.
At the annual Ritual of Consociate Commitment and Welcome on May 1, 2019, 10 new Consociates made their commitments. Each new Consociate made a short statement at this ritual and for the next several months we will reprint these statements one at a time. This statement is from Consociate Celeste Mazur.

**Ritual of Consociate Commitment, May 1, 2019**

My journey with the CSJ community began 25 years ago, in Latham, New York. I was 22 years old, and I was a dear neighbor on the receiving end of the beautiful charism of this community. I had recently lost my mother and grandmother and what remained of my family was fractured, filled with pain, and alcoholism. I moved on my own from Michigan to upstate New York and was lost, alone, and spiritually unmoored. I randomly attended a mass and answered an ad in the church bulletin to volunteer as a friendly visitor for elderly CSJ sisters. This led to a beautiful years-long friendship with Sister Jane Mary Dardis, who coordinated the volunteer program. She and the Albany CSJ community embraced and loved me when I really needed that in my life, and I’m forever grateful. I later learned about the hand of God in this experience when in talking with Jane we learned that I had only ever attended mass at that church one time, and she had only ever advertised there that one time. We marveled at how such deep and loving connection sprang from one seemingly random moment.

I moved away from New York in 1995 and lived and worked in three states, served in the Peace Corps, got married, attended grad school, and built my career as a teacher. Throughout all that, my experiences with the Albany CSJ community and my friendship with Jane were like seeds that planted within me. At the end of all my travels, I landed living three blocks from the St. Paul CSJ community – the hand of God again. About three years ago those seeds started to grow and I felt called to connect with this community, drawn to the mission and a desiring to be part of it in some way.

Throughout the consociate candidacy process, the more I’ve gotten to know this community, the more right and good and like home it’s felt. When I’m here I’m in a warm embrace filled with connectedness, spiritual growth, justice, kindness, and love. It’s a gift to be here, and it inspires and guides me to live, work, serve and be in this world as well as I possibly can.

I, Celeste Mazur, commit myself to be a Consociate of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Paul Province, moving always toward profound love of God and neighbor without distinction. I pledge myself to live the vision and values of the community within the context of my life and responsibilities.
How Has Being a Consociate Shaped Your Mission Work?

by Carol Gariano and Louise Hiniker

The question above was answered this June by 68 Consociates who responded to the Consociates' Mission Expression and Participation Survey. The purpose of this survey is to collect information that describes the work Consociates are doing in the world and to share that composite with the Consocium, ACOF, Sisters, Congregation, potential funders, and others.

Consociates see their mission work shaped and influenced by their CSJ commitment in the following ways:

- Living a truly mission-directed life
- Experiencing awareness of profound love
- Focusing on working for justice
- Sustaining motivation to do the work
- Receiving support to endure and stay in the work
- Extending the mission by sharing it with others.

The following reflections have been edited and are typical of Consociate responses: It helps me see the work I do as much more than about money or personal fulfillment; it is about being a change-maker and an instrument of my higher power. I am more mindful of how God lives in us, the inter-connection between God and the dear neighbor, and the opportunities before me to provide love. Being a consociate helps me focus my purpose and intention with justice. It spurs me to think, pray and act for justice in the small and large domains where I find myself as I do the work I am called to do in the world. I have a brave, safe community where I am nurtured and loved in the midst of a chaotic world. The community helps me work in a more caring, compassionate, loving way. I feel less alone. I share the mission with others. I do outreach in informal ways: I welcome, connect, listen and share and pass these values forward to others who bring it into the world.

A hearty thanks to all who completed the survey! You show us how to be Love in the world today! More survey data will be shared in later articles.
Participants’ Stories of their Sacred Call to Agrégée

This month we continue our Agrégée series with reflections by participants in the June 2018, Sacred Is the Call retreat held in St. Paul and facilitated by Jean Wincek, CSJ. The participants from the four provinces included five from Albany, one from Los Angeles (Rita Scherrei, who later discerned a call to vowed membership as a Sister), one from St. Louis, and seven from St. Paul. Introduction written by Mary Kaye Medinger.

Mary Craven (Albany): I am on an unexpected journey being led by the Spirit. At my stage in life, I am blessedly contented by all that makes my life full and joyful. I became an Associate several years ago mentored by a deeply spiritual and prayerful individual, who has since become my “sister” and friend. The CSJ Albany Associates have become my family within the greater beloved CSJ community. So why did I receive this calling to become an Agrégée or Companion? Why do I have this desire to delve deeper into the CSJ charism of unifying Love? Why do I crave a deeper intimacy with the Trinitarian God in a committed, witnessed and covenant relationship? I am privileged to serve as an Emergency on Call chaplain in a Trauma 1 Medical Center. This ministry blesses and teaches me daily through my encounters with staff, patients and families. My family, friends Associate and CSJ community make my life full and rich with grace.

In June Agrégées met for their 2019 annual retreat in St. Paul. From left: Barbara McIlquham (SP), Mary Craven (A), Nancy Koltko (A), Megan Bender (SP), Mary Kaye Medinger (SP), Louise Hiniker (SP), Alexandra Guliano (SL), Lois Mineau (SP), Mary Louise Menikheim (SP), Jennifer Tacheny (SP). Present in spirit: Mary Beckfeld (SP), Gayle Buschle (A), Kileen Stone (A).
I hunger for more because I have come to believe this path is what God desires of me. It is not a choice; it is the heart of me. I have come to a point of hearing within myself the Spirit saying: Come see what We have prepared for you, trust Our vision for you to become what We desire you should become. In this new life, you will love more deeply, serve more faithfully and greater delight Us. When put in those terms, YES is the only possible answer I can make.

**Alexandra Guliano** (St. Louis): Many years ago, while on a directed retreat with Janet Mock, CSJ (Baden) as my director, I was praying about whether I belonged in the CSJ community. At the time, she looked at me with deep, affirming eyes, and boldly stated, “You have CSJ written on your forehead.” On another retreat, this time years later with Connie DeBiase, CSJ (Brentwood) as director, Julie Harkins, CSJ (Boston) said this to me regarding the charism, “You were born with it!” The June 15-17, 2018, Agrégée Reflection Weekend was the most powerful experience of the call to fully live the charism that I have ever felt. The CSJ charism is my spiritual breath. It is the pearl of great price that is worth everything and every part of me. Living the Gospel by living the charism is the deepest part of me. I give great thanks for this clarity...no one, nothing can take it away...it is meant to be lived and shared. Amen!

**Louise Hiniker** (St. Paul): I experience the call to be affiliated with the CSJs as an Agrégée primarily as a way of reimagining and realizing the More within me and also as a way of identifying with and feeling connected to those women in our history who met Divine Energy and Love in and through serving others.

**Highlights of the Weekend for me were:** enjoying the company of clear thinking, articulate and inspired women; participating in an exquisitely designed retreat/workshop with competent leadership; experiencing those few liminal moments recognizing the significance of it all, creating our future, reaching to grasp a profile of a CSJ Agrégée of the 21st Century.

**Nancy Koltko** (Albany): Our June weekend was, for me, a lived experience of the call to Agrégée. We are a group of women coming together for a Purpose with Sacred Meaning for each one of us. We are birthing a new, yet historically based, concept of CSJ community. As I noted in the June correspondence: “The essence of who we have been to one another this weekend IS and WILL BE a mustard seed for our slow and steady growth into our Agrégée relationship.”

As I review the weekend, I have two questions I ask myself: 1) How will the Agrégée Covenant WITH the Sisters of St. Joseph be essentially different from my 32-year Associate Commitment TO the Sisters of St. Joseph? 2) How do we become so clear in our articulation of Agrégée that it is acceptable/passionately meaningful to one another and to the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph?

I am honored to be part of our little community, as we personally and communally live the questions into the answers. With Hope and Trust.
Helen Janssen, CSJ  
**January 19, 1922 ~ June 13, 2019**  
Strong, benevolent, creative, grateful lover of life, nature, music, and people are just a few ways those who knew her best describe Helen Rose (Nicholas) Janssen, CSJ. Born thirteenth of fifteen children on a farm in Wadena, MN, Helen entered the community of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1940, and in 1960 earned a BA in Sociology from the College of St. Catherine. Her long vocational career included more than 50 years as a teacher in Minnesota, North Dakota and Hawaii. After taking the necessary courses, she spent 20 years serving in health care ministries as a home health and nurses’ aide, and hospice care chaplain.

In 1991 she received the State of Minnesota Humanitarian award for her “significant contributions to the long-term health care industry.” Of this she said, “I saw miracles of grace, one after another, it was very life-giving.”

One friend shared “she was probably the nicest, kindest person I have ever met.”

In an interview about Helen’s life, Ben Bauer, UST asked, “What is something that you are most proud of in your life?” She responded, “To persevere and love.” Her secrets to a happy life included, “acceptance and surrender and then be grateful. Some people find the ill in everything and some people find the good. I think finding the good in everything is the way to go.” One of her favorite quotes is, “Love casts out fear.”

Mary Kessler, CSJ  
**April 16, 1926 ~ May 14, 2019**  
The third of three daughters, Mary grew up playing the cello with her sisters, pianist Helen and violinist Catherine. She graduated from St. Joseph Academy in 1944 and joined the Sisters in 1947 before her senior year at the College of St. Catherine.

Though not a professional musician like her sisters, Mary integrated her love of song and harmony into a ministry of teaching at the grade and high school levels and then community building, first as a counselor and then Province Personnel Director (1965-1975).

In an oral history by Sister Ann Diehl, Mary describes serving as a counselor for the community after Vatican II. Mary accompanied many people through those years. The oral history shows her analytic side and her perception of evolving needs that led her to start Derham Community in 1975 where she served for 20 years as a personal development house for CSJs and other women religious.

Mary said, “I have never met anyone who did not experience a re-awakened hope and a newly-invigorated, whole self, given the time and freedom to claim herself in the midst of community living. We have within us and within one another the power to heal.”
Grace McKigney, CSJ
January 24, 1927 ~ May 18, 2019
Generous, kind-hearted and one who loved nothing better than a good joke, are but a few ways those who knew her best describe Grace (Margaret Henry) McKigney, CSJ. Born on a dairy farm in Marshall, MN, she entered the community of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1945.

In 1960, Grace earned a BA in Music and Latin from the College of St. Catherine, St. Paul. For nearly twenty years Grace taught music at schools in Minnesota and North Dakota. She worked in the office at Nativity Parish from 1972 until her retirement in 2009.

Excerpts taken from tribute books about Grace written by 4th Grade students of Nativity of Our Lord School, St. Paul, 2006, include:

- Sister Grace said that she likes sweet music.
- Dear Sister Grace, Thank you for all you’ve done for us. You were the best and funniest Sister ever. Thank you for the school supplies. Love, Dylan.
- Dear Sister Grace, Thank you for helping run the school. You helped me make friends. Love, Daniel.
- Dear Sister Grace, Thank you for all the supplies. Do you know this joke? Why did the apple turn red? Because it saw the salad dressing. Or, why did the boy put ice on his dad’s bed? Because he wanted a cold pop. I’ll miss you a lot. I’ll leave a big spot in my soul for you. I don’t know how we will run the school without you. From, Catherine.
- Dear Sister Grace, Thank you for running the bookstore. You are a wonderful person with a great sense of humor. There is nun thing like you. Love, Olivia.
- Dear Sister Grace, Jesus performed many miracles on earth. His miracle to me is you. I’ll miss you. Love, Katie.

May they rest in love and peace.
Sister Rosalia Hays
(1865 - 1931)

Sister Rosalia was born on May 6, 1865 in Minneapolis, MN. She entered the novitiate in St. Paul on November 21, 1886 and professed final vows on August 15, 1894. Sister Rosalia’s association with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet began in her school days at Holy Angels Academy in Minneapolis.

Sister Rosalia taught at Holy Angels Academy and St. Margaret’s Academy in Minneapolis. She served as Principal at Immaculate Conception Grade School in Minneapolis. In 1910, she became the Mistress of Novices for the St. Paul Province. In 1912, she welcomed the first group of postulants to the newly opened St. Joseph Novitiate, which was the second building the Sisters built on the land on Randolph Avenue between Fairview and Cleveland (the land is now home to St. Catherine University, the Randolph Properties for the Sisters, and Carondelet Village). There were 38 postulants welcomed at that time who then received their habits on March 19, 1913. She also served as Superior at Holy Angels Academy, St. Margaret’s Academy, St. Joseph’s Academy, and the College of St. Catherine.

Sister Rosalia’s final ministry was as Superior at St. Joseph Provincial House. She was, until her death, a woman of prayer. Each First Friday was the Feast of the Sacred Heart for Sister Rosalia. It was fitting then, that she was called home on the First Friday of January in 1931.

To learn more about Sister Marie Inez Johnson, and other early Sisters, check out the Archives web page: https://www.csjstpaul.org/csj-stpaul-archives/. Be sure to also check out our online collection at http://csjstpaul.pastperfectonline.com/.
CELESTE’S DREAM
Meeting Young Adults, working for Justice, and listening to Spiritual Journeys
by Jennifer Tacheny and Jill Underdahl, CSJ

We are learning that one of the most impactful ways we can engage students is through semester or year-long internships. Through these internships, we steep students in the CSJ story, listen to their interests and passions, and work together to address necessary social change in their lives, on St. Kate’s campus and beyond. In this capacity, students lead and influence while being supported by the CSJ community. One of our 2018-2019 St. Kate’s Community Leader Interns, Natalie Nation, reflects on her work with us below.

“Nearly two years of work in the CSJs Office of Justice and Young Adult Spirituality is coming to a close, as is my career as a St. Kate’s student. In the spirit of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, who so often saw needs in their community and dove head first into dynamic and innovative solutions rooted in social justice, I’m so proud to have been involved in building up the food shelf and the St. Kate’s community garden. These programs both engage and educate students, and also serve them and allow them to live dignified and healthy lives. What a joyful mission! I’m thankful for all of the support and encouragement I’ve received in my internship, and I will carry you all in my heart as I continue on my journey. Though most of my work has been directed towards the St. Kate’s community, the most important thing I will take with me as I head out to my next adventure (graduate school in Public Health Nutrition at the University of Minnesota!), is how easy it is to make connections, and how much joy I’ve found in connecting with others; CSJs, students, faculty, partners in mission, and more, and bringing our talents together to create positive change. Thank you all, and I look forward to continuing to stay involved with Celeste’s Dream as a volunteer gardener, and hopefully with other projects in the future!”

Spiritual Journeys
We delve into the spiritual questions and experiences of young adult seekers. A recent note of gratitude from a student highlights aspects of what Celeste’s Dream hopes to offer young adults on their faith journey.

“I am so grateful to have met you during my time at Macalester! I came to Mac unsure about my faith and what it meant to be a young Catholic in today’s world, and I am so glad God made our paths intersect. Thank you for being so willing to listen, for the wise advice, for sharing your own stories. I felt seen, heard, and loved, especially during my most challenging moments.”
Immigration: Our Humanitarian Crisis

The United States has a long and proud history of welcoming immigrants and sheltering refugees. The Church, including the Popes and our U.S. Bishops, have emphasized that how we treat the most vulnerable in our society, especially our welcoming of immigrants and refugees, is a moral test. Pope Francis reiterates that our welcoming of immigrants and refugees is not political rhetoric but “an invitation to recover some of those essential dimensions of our Christian existence and our humanity that risk being overlooked in a prosperous society.” We, the Sisters of St. Joseph and Consociates, live and work that all may be one — one with God, with one another, and all creation and welcome the ‘dear neighbor’ without exception. We have been blessed to be able to accompany and serve migrant communities across this country, and we will continue to welcome them as our faith requires.

The Province Leadership Team released this recent statement voicing our continued support for Immigrants and Refugees:

- Family of Oscar Alberto Martinez and his 23-month-old daughter, Angie Valeria, who drowned on June 23, 2019 while attempting to cross the Rio Grande. We offer our sympathy and condolences for their horrific loss and lament this tragedy and those like it around the world that place millions in situations so dire that they risk their lives to the point of death in the hopeful pursuit of lives with dignity.
- Children our country has placed in detention, separated from their families, and living in unsafe conditions. We believe this is a reflection of an abject system so broken that it incapacitates those within the system who wish to respond with compassion. We recognize the potential resulting long-term physical, psychological and spiritual harm and the seeds being sown through our own complicity.
- Growing sense of fear and resulting trauma within our immigrant communities, particularly families, as they deal with the looming threat of deportation raids.
- Border communities including immigrants and the personnel and communities dealing with their arrival. Our Sisters who have lived and worked along the southern border remind us that the U.S. crisis is not just about migrants. It touches entire communities stressing basic support services and challenging residents, especially those already struggling with poverty.
- Government personnel and humanitarian workers on the frontlines who are overwhelmed and poorly equipped to adequately and compassionately address the needs of this crisis.
- Widening political divide surrounding immigration that is hampering humanity’s ability to deal with these crises. We look to our leaders and elected officials to address their own divides, so our human family can pursue lives with dignity and justice.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, called to move “always toward the profound love of God and love of neighbor without distinction,” believe there is a better way. Standing in solidarity with all our “Dear Neighbors” we work toward unifying Love, praying humanity finds its way to work together to heal a broken and divided world where each life is respected, and people are welcomed, protected, and able to flourish.
Ministry Updates

CSJSTPaul.org/Justice

Justice

The Justice office reports that Justice Commission members have spent the summer meeting with past Commission members and passionate community members to evaluate the strengths, weaknesses, challenges, and barriers facing the Justice Commission in the coming years. These strategic Justice “think tank” sessions have been extremely fruitful in clarifying the need to strengthen the commission in six (6) emerging areas: Structure, Membership, Communication/Public Image, Action & Advocacy, Leadership, and Education. Small subgroups continue to meet throughout the summer to refine strategic opportunities for the commission and its work for the coming year.

Anti-Human Trafficking Working Group members, together with other Religious Communities, hosted the third overnight self-care retreat for professional staff of four Minnesota organizations working with trafficking survivors in early June. We thank CSJ community members for their personal notes, prayer, and support of these amazing twenty women and this healing retreat.

Dismantling Racism Working Group members have been hosting nine book groups throughout the summer to discuss the book, White Fragility. The conversations have been important, timely, and challenging as we all look forward to the September 7 Community Assembly.

Earth Partners Working Group Every Tuesday night throughout the growing season members have continued supporting the Celeste’s Dream garden. Watch for more information about and join us for the August Celeste’s Dream garden potluck.

Health Care for All Task Group continues preparations for a fall program, Homelessness: Unpacking the 2019 MN Wilder Homeless Report. Mark your calendars for Friday morning, November 1.

Immigration Working Group members with an increasing number of CSJ community members have continued to attend the second Tuesday of every month prayer vigils at the Whipple Federal Building. Members also participated in the national (and international) Lights of Liberty vigils supporting immigrant detainees at local Minnesota detention centers on July 12.

Legislative Advocacy Partners Working Group celebrates successes of their work at the Minnesota Legislature this past Session including the:

1) Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) with an increase in cash assistance for children and parents of $100 a month. This is the first time in 33 years this program has seen an increase for families in need.

2) Saving the Health Care Provider Tax at a slightly reduced rate of 1.8% which will be vitally important in continuing the funding of health care for low income Minnesotans.

3) Creation of a Minnesota state task force to address missing and murdered Indigenous women was passed into law in the omnibus Public Safety bill.

LGBTQ Connections Task Group members along with other CSJ community members marched in this year’s Pride Parade in Minneapolis on June 23. Our presence as a faith community is noticed and a testimony to our charism’s profound Love of God and love of neighbor without distinction and our commitment to inclusion of ALL.

Native American Awareness Working Group members volunteered this summer at the Dream of Wild Health Farm. CSJ community members are welcome to join us on the next volunteer day at the farm on August 16.

Ritual Task Group reminds us that there is NO Peace Prayer in August. We will resume with our next prayer on September 11.

Consociate Rita Quigley and the immigration working group attended a prayer vigil at the Whipple Federal Building.
SARAH’S...  
AN OASIS FOR WOMEN

Sarah’s... an Oasis for Women is a unique program that welcomes women from all over the world who have survived violence, abuse, torture, war, discrimination and trauma. Many of Sarah’s current and former residents are asylum seekers. Other transitional homes in the Twin Cities such as Jonathan House and Casa Guadalupana focus on serving immigrant men, single mothers or entire families. However, no other transitional home in Minnesota serves immigrant adult women who are homeless and without resources. Collaborative organizations such as the International Institute help educate, train, and assist Sarah’s in job placement for our residents. Collaborative partners often refer women to Sarah’s who are in need of housing and they work with Sarah’s in locating more permanent housing for our residents. Sarah’s appreciates all our community collaborators who, in practical ways, are working with Sarah’s to provide much needed support.

The map (updated last in 2015) shows the locations of housing and shelter open to persons seeking humanitarian protection. Sarah’s remains unique as the only transitional housing specifically serving immigrant women not accompanied by children. The red “balloons” on the map indicate confirmed housing or shelter programs. The green “balloons” indicate unconfirmed locations. The location of Sarah’s is circled in purple.

What is Sarah’s to you?

(Testimonial)

Sarah’s has structure and is about freedom.
Sarah’s has private spaces and is about gathering spaces.
Sarah’s has beautiful things and is about beautiful people.
Sarah’s has order and is about peace.
Sarah’s has neighbors and is about community.
Sarah’s has staff and is about oneness.
Sarah’s has land and is about nurturing.
Sarah’s has rules and is about flexibility.
Sarah’s has strangers and is about friendship.
Sarah’s has resources and is about sharing.
Sarah’s has knowledge and is about new learnings.
Sarah’s has heartaches and is about healing.
Sarah’s has hunger and is about nourishment.
Sarah’s has seen the ruins of unjust systems and is about rebuilding.
Sarah’s has uncertainty and is about faith.
Sarah’s has milestones and is about celebrations.
Sarah’s has today and is about loving energy.
Sarah’s has tomorrow and is about hope.
Sarah’s has yesterday and is about goodbyes.

Patricia M. Brown
Advisory Council Member and Sarah’s Resident 2001-2003
Deceased September 26, 2004
ST. JOSEPH WORKERS

On August 3, the 18th group of St Joseph Workers will arrive and begin their year with 10 days of orientation and retreat. We hope to meet many of you during this time and invite you to the Welcoming Ritual at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 22 in Our Lady of the Presentation Chapel.

Introducing the 2019-2020 St. Joseph Workers:

- Chelsea Norton comes from Eden Prairie, Minnesota, attended the University of Minnesota in the Twin Cities, and will be serving with Sarah’s… an Oasis for Women.

- Katlyn Martin comes from La Vista, Nebraska, attended St Louis University in St. Louis, MO and will be serving with Project for Pride in Living.

- Bridget Peterson comes from Minneapolis, Minnesota, attended University of Minnesota in Morris, MN and will be serving with Mary’s Pence.

- Taylor Wicklund comes from Minneapolis, Minnesota, attended Gustavus Adolphus College in St Peter, MN and will be serving with Carondelet Village.

- Katie Galuska comes from Grayslake, Illinois, attended St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, and will be serving with Haven Housing.

Thanks for all of your care and support!

LEARNING IN STYLE

Greetings from the six teachers and 41 students attending summer school this year. Students are focused on writing skills, conversational speaking, preparing for their citizenship tests and building computer skills.

This is the second year Learning in Style School has offered summer school and we are pleased with the results. Last year we had 34 students enrolled; this year we have 41. Last year students were in school for a combined total of 356 hours. This year we expect students will take over 550 hours of instruction.

Friends and volunteers have also added their fair share of hours. Two students from Blake School in Minneapolis volunteered in the classrooms and in the Children’s Room. Students from Loyola High School in Chicago arrived by bus to weed the garden and wash tables and chairs throughout LIS. Our volunteer registrars were available to enroll students for the fall term and manage the front desk and students and teachers dropped by to say, “Hi.”

The last day of summer school was Wednesday, July 3. We want to congratulate our students for their efforts and thank our staff and volunteers for their great work. Enjoy the rest of summer!
Due to popular demand, we have extended the art exhibit, Meeting Mary Again: A Multicultural, Artistic Pilgrimage curated by Mary Kaye Medinger. Come join a conversation that Mary Kaye will facilitate this month:

**Furthering the Conversation: Meeting Mary Again**

In conjunction with the current Wisdom Ways art exhibit in Carondelet Center, Meeting Mary Again: A Multicultural, Artistic Pilgrimage, join curator Mary Kaye Medinger for an exploration of the role of Mary of Nazareth in Christian spirituality and art and in our own lives. We will also explore Marian theology, in readings drawing on the expertise of theologians Elizabeth Johnson through her book Dangerous Memories: A Mosaic of Mary in Scripture (Continuum) and Wendy Wright in her book Mary and the Catholic Imagination – Le Point Vierge (Paulist Press). This program furthers the conversation begun in June does not presume attendance at the earlier session!

**Facilitator:** Mary Kaye Medinger is a lifelong educator, writer, editor, spiritual director and retreat leader with a particular interest in women’s spirituality, especially Mariology. A consociate of the Sisters of St. Joseph, she has spent nearly 40 years in various ministerial positions in parish, diocesan and ecumenical settings.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, August 14, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (the vigil of the feast of the Assumption) or Wednesday August 21, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.  
RSVP to Wisdom Ways at 651-696-2788.
Community Assembly

Theme: Weaving Direction and Actions: Moving Forward Together

Date: Saturday, September 7, 2019

Place: Carondelet Center Dining Room

Time: 8:30 a.m: Gather
     9:00 – 12:00: Meeting
     Noon lunch

COME AND JOIN US for the September Community Assembly where we will share an overview of the directions we set at this year’s Provincial Chapter and discuss together questions like:

- What action steps will move us forward?
- How is your work in the world addressing these directions?
- What will your part be?

The Relationship and Association, Justice, and Ministry Commissions will also share their proposal for intentional action on racial justice.

Please note: this is the first of our new, shorter, Community Assemblies. Our work will be done by noon! Mark your calendar and be with us for the morning.

Action threads (woof):
- Engage youth and young adults
- Incorporate action against racism
- Expanding partners and alliances to influence systemic change

Action areas (warp):
- Forging theologies and spiritualities for a new church
- Seeking justice for families experiencing homelessness
- Seeking justice for the marginalized migrants
- Supporting women and girls in claiming their voice
- Fulfilling Earth’s sacred mandate
- Promoting peace and non-violence
How intelligent are those St. Kate’s honey bees that visit the Province garden plots? They are a lot smarter than I ever thought.

One day in June I saw a man looking at the gardens on the Province property that borders Randolph Avenue. Frequently he would bend down and appear to closely inspect something. He walked over to the garden by St. Joseph’s statue and knelt down with his face close to the plants. Really curious by now I trotted over and asked him what he was looking at. It was then I noticed he had a camera with a large close-up lens. I realized I had met him before, Chris Palahniuk, faculty assistant at St. Kate’s and biology lab manager. He was photographing honey bees gathering nectar from the catmint plants’ (not catnip) purple blossoms.
Chris has a Master of Science degree, is a faculty assistant at St. Kate’s and is the “beekeeper” of the residents in the hives on the green roof of Fontbonne Hall.

I knew bees were smart. But in fifteen minutes I learned more about them than I could ever have imagined.

Chris sent me the article “Decoding The Language of the Bee” by Nobel Lecturer, Karl Von Frisch. A pretty steep article that I’m attempting to understand better by “boiling it down.”

To find good flowers for their needs, honey bees use their senses of smell and sight, time of day in relation to the sun, textures and location. Red is one color they cannot see well. They can see ultraviolet light. Many flowers have ultraviolet patches that act as nectar guides. These guides attract bees, which then land and get nectar.

Who does the scouting for the best flowers and good water holes? It’s the females, who are the foragers. Including the queen bee, females comprise over 90 per cent of the hive. When a forager has a good find, she flies back to the hive and does a dance, either the tail wagging dance or the round dance. The round dance conveys only information about how good the source is and how close –about 164 feet away. The waggle dance gives the location of the source in relation to the hive, the distance, up to five miles, and the quality of the source.

The other females become excited from the scent she brings back on her body and by the dance she does. They join in the dance. The richer and sweeter the flow of the nectar, the livelier the dance of the bees. As the bees dance in a running curve doing the round dance or the tail wagging dance in a straight line, they are receiving information given by the forager.

Bees somehow know how to measure the passage of time and so even as the sun moves, the foragers still can find locations with some accuracy. Amazingly they also seem to account for wind speed and objects such as buildings, etc.

I haven’t advanced to this level of understanding yet.

And all the while the bees are about their own business, they are busy pollinating plants for us.

What’s our role in the beauty of all this? Provide bee friendly plants and places with clean, fresh water. Both are necessities of the bees.

For delightful videos of the Bee Dances, go to YouTube and type in The Bee Waggle Dance.
SEPTEmbERFEST

JOIN US!
LIVE MUSIC | FOOD TRUCKS | RAFFLE PRIZES | CRAFT BEER

Thursday
September 5, 2019
5 – 8 pm

1890 Randolph Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105

rain or shine