Lord, grace me with your perspective imprinted on my heart. Give me your tender loving, your unfaltering stride, your caring, life-giving touch.
Province News Notes

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.

EDITOR
Jenny Beatrice

MANAGING EDITOR & GRAPHIC DESIGN
Sarah Baker

PRODUCTION, PRINTING & MAILING
Madeleine Reilly

PROOFREADERS
Mary Flick, CSJ
Redmond Reilly, Intern

CLT TRANSITION

View photos from the Jan. 11 ceremony as we celebrated the transition of the incoming and outgoing members of the Congregational Leadership Team.

SISTER SPOTLIGHT

Sister Mary Jo Logan shares her experience volunteering at St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis.

PEACE HOUSE

Journey to New Life in Kansas City opens Peace House, its newest residential housing solution for women out of prison.

ON THE COVER

Lord, grace me with your perspective imprinted on my heart. Give me your tender loving, your unfaltering stride, your caring, life-giving touch.

The new CLT's prayer for the congregation. See photos from their Transition to Leadership Ceremony on page 6.

CONTENTS

3 Province Leadership Team
4 Mission Agenda Committee
5 Formation
6 Congregation
9 Association
10 Sister Spotlight
12 CSJ News
14 Necrology: A. Elaine Damer
15 Necrology: S. James Patrick Corbett
16 Necrology: S. Teresa Shea
17 Necrology: S. Janet Mary Feager
18 Mission Advancement
19 Events and Happenings
20 Province Calendar

NEXT ISSUE:
March/ April
Submission Deadline: March 10
Publication Date: April 1
For a complete PNN schedule, visit Members Only at csjsl.org.
As a team and council, we have completed our first half year. Early in our term, one of the sisters advised me, “You’re just freshmen. Give yourselves time to adjust.” That has been such a great image for me. We have a four-year term and we have just completed our first semester. I feel like I’m beginning to get a rhythm for the ministry of Province Leadership. We continue working for you through the post-Christmas lull and its associated winter blues, and we ask for your prayers in our mission. So yes, you guessed it. I’m talkin’ rhythm and blues!

As for the rhythm, the team and council meet for three days at the beginning of every other month. We begin with time for prayer and sharing of the heart. We also try to include time for relaxation and celebration during our days together.

We have been inviting the department heads to come in one-by-one and discuss their current operations and plans moving forward. These have been good opportunities to further our understanding of the province departments and to work toward open communication. At the January meeting, we met with the Health and Wholeness staff to better understand this important ministry and the hopes and challenges of serving our sisters’ needs.

We review the province’s financial report, discuss our ministry fund and approve some requests. We also discuss updates on various projects and aspects of province life.

In addition to these semi-monthly meetings, we serve as the province investment committee that meets quarterly.

As a team, we meet weekly on Wednesday mornings. We begin with prayer and sharing. We often bring the week’s prayer requests to our circle along with upcoming meetings and events, holding them in prayer. Then we move into the more immediate business. We share projects or concerns and get input from each other. We try to finish our morning with those gathered in Holy Family Chapel for the regular Wednesday Midday Prayer.

I’m also trying to strike a balance personally with prayer, community, family, consultation ministry and personal wellness. Let me say it’s a work in progress.

For the blues part, after the hustle and bustle of the holidays, the cold dark days of winter can be challenging to many of us, myself included. Many are also facing illness and death among family and friends, personal illness and major life transitions. It is a time to count on the indomitable promise of spring in the seasons of Earth and the seasons of our lives. The waiting of Advent gives way to the waiting of winter, and that can test our patience.

I have to choose what gives me life and reminds me of this promise of spring. I nourish my mind, body and spirit with healthy foods and with good reading and good friends in community and beyond. I exercise my mind, body and spirit by walking and ice-skating, and by exploring new ideas and new friendships. I find time to rest and relax alone, with my friends and with my God.

Let’s pray for each other and let the meaningful beat of our personal and community’s “rhythm and blues” intermingle in a chorus of hope.
An Invitation to Immersion
From the Mission Agenda Committee

The Mission Agenda Committee met in December and engaged in an in-depth discussion on mission and action through the lens of our province focus on dismantling racism. Rather than planning a traditional gathering for the spring, the committee is inviting all sisters and associates to experience something new.

We invite sisters and associates, whether as individuals or as a group, to embark on an experience that offers a new perspective on race.

There are opportunities on a variety of levels that one can participate in. The following are some suggested opportunities, but feel free to come up with your own ideas.

Locally
- Attend an African-American church for Eucharist
- Visit a museum with a multi-cultural focus, such as black history or the Holocaust
- Enjoy a production from a Black theater group
- Delight in the taste of native African-American foods
- Ride the bus from one end of your city to the other

Nationally
- Take a pilgrimage to Selma, Alabama
- Visit the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee
- Visit the Underground Railroad Museum in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Visit the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Alabama
- Take classes at the Black Catholic Institute at Xavier University in New Orleans

Big Picture
- Collaborate with an African-American parish or community organization
- Search for an immersion experience of living in a non-white community
- Partner with an African-American religious community

We encourage people to identify opportunities for other immersion experiences and share the ideas with one another in their regions.

We intend to invite sisters and associates to gather and share their experiences as we ask what more can we do. As always, we continue to pray, read, learn, discuss and reflect. Our hope is to move toward meaningful action.

Committee members:
Kathleen Barry, CSJA
Pat Bober, CSJ
Nancy Corcoran, CSJ
Cathy Hart, CSJA
Kay Komotos, CSJA
Kate Regan, CSJ
Fran Maber, CSJ—PLT Liaison
Margaret Schulz, CSJ—PLT Liaison

MISSOURI OPPORTUNITIES
IN ST. LOUIS
African-American Churches
St. Matthew the Apostle Parish
2716 Sarah St., 63113
sts. Teresa and Bridget Parish
2401 N. Grand Blvd., 63106
Museums
Holocaust Museum
12 Millstone Campus Dr., 63146
Griot Museum of Black History
2505 St. Louis Ave., 63106
Theater
The Black Rep
6662 Olive Blvd., 63130
Restaurants
Meskerem Ethiopian
3210 S. Grand Blvd., 63118
African Palace
4005 Seven Hills Dr., Florissant, 63033
Ye Ethiopian
5916 Delmar Blvd., 63112

IN KANSAS CITY
Restaurants
Blue Nile Café
20 E. 5th St., 64106
Desta’s Ethiopian Cuisine
13475 Switzer Rd., Overland Park, 66213
Jubaland Grill
1315 Independence Ave., 64106
In December, I had the privilege of seeing Tom Hanks portray TV program creator Fred Rogers in "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood." Reflecting back, two themes from the film help me articulate some of what I have been experiencing during my canonical novitiate year.

This true-to-life film portrays a husband and new father, a journalist named Lloyd, who is tasked with writing a 400-word story about Mr. Rogers. Even the trailer makes it clear that the journalist will be transformed by their relationship. In several significant ways, this movie is all about the process of Lloyd becoming more human: allowing his wife to see his fears, anger and shame; acknowledging areas within himself that are broken so that healing can begin; and beginning to make peace with imperfect people, himself included—himself first of all.

As I watched Lloyd become more genuine, open and vulnerable, I found myself crying. Depicted on the screen was both the process and the goal of our canonical year. I am just like Lloyd—trying to accept God’s invitation(s) for me to become more human, more fully alive, more fully myself. As novices, we are asked to pay attention to the daily opportunities we have to grow in awareness of and accept ourselves, to see our perfectly-imperfect selves as God sees us. And the invitation is not just to see ourselves more clearly. The more we experience ourselves as beloved of God, the more grounded we become in relationship with Jesus, the more we see others and the very world around us with the life-giving vision and heart of the Holy Spirit.

In addition to depicting the journalist’s growth, the core of this movie lies in showing us how Mr. Rogers radiated God’s unconditional love. Throughout the entire film, Fred Rogers consistently and genuinely cares for others—not just children, but whomever is immediately in front of him. Mr. Rogers listens deeply, concretely empathizes with what he hears, and openly affirms the feelings and perspectives of the person who is before him (our dear neighbor!). Critically, in every encounter, with every person, and in every conversation, Fred Rogers accepted the other wherever they were, no matter what they shared with him.

This is where you come in, my dear community members, you daughters of St. Joseph.

The impetus for Lloyd’s transformation was his relationship with Fred Rogers, from the genuine love and wholehearted acceptance he received from this creator of a children’s television program. So, too, have my formators and you, my dear Sisters of St. Joseph, been the impetus for my ongoing transformation. God worked through Mr. Rogers’ relationships just as God is working through our relationships. You have shown me what it means to love God and the dear neighbor without distinction because YOU have loved me as your dear neighbor. Without distinction. Without qualification.

Just as I’ve found unconditional acceptance in this community, so, too, do I hope to offer myself and others God’s unconditional acceptance. I hope to love more like Mr. Rogers. I hope to (continue to) love more like a Sister of St. Joseph.
New Congregational Leadership Team Takes Office
By Kim Westeman, Congregational Communications Director

On Jan. 11, sisters, ACOF, partners and friends gathered in Holy Family Chapel at the Carondelet Motherhouse for a lovely ceremony celebrating our congregational leadership.

We began by thanking the outgoing CLT for their service and leadership and asked God to bless them with quiet time, strength and peace after a job well done.

The incoming team, who planned the ceremony, shared the song, "Dame, Señor, Tu Mirada," which they said captured their prayer for the congregation: "Lord, grace me with your perspective imprinted on my heart. Give me your tender loving, your unfaltering stride, your caring, life-giving touch."

The crowd blessed the incoming team, asking God to provide them with the graces and gifts they would need in their work.
The outgoing Congregational Leadership Team (left to right): Sisters Mary Ann Leininger, Danielle Bonetti, Barbara Dreher, Mary McKay and Miriam Ukeritis.

LEFT: New CLT Member Sister Mary McGlone leads the choir in song.

ABOVE: New CLT member Sister Patty Johnson states her intention for leadership.
Congregational JPIC Team Encourages Environmental Guidelines Use in Province Centers

As Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Associates, Consociates, ‘Ohana and Familia de San José, we strive to be “beacons of hope” and commit ourselves to responding to the crisis of Earth and global warming, with the direction and inspiration of Laudato Si’

-2019 Congregational Chapter Statement of Future Direction

The call of the 2019 Congregational Chapter to respond to the crisis of Earth and global warming requires both small and large responses. The Congregational Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Team is making its own initial response. It has developed 10 environmental guidelines (right) that can be shared and used in the congregation’s provincial centers. Each JPIC team member is working with the director of their home province center to explore ways to follow the guidelines, as well as ways to share and suitably display them. It is hoped that by posting them in guest rooms, on bulletin boards, and on social media, the guidelines will be seen and adopted by sisters and associates of the congregation as well as those using the province centers.

“The environmental guidelines are but one way we, as a congregation, can witness to our commitment of responding to the crisis of the earth as our congregational chapter direction statement calls us to do,” says Sister Mary Flick, St. Louis province justice coordinator. “I think it’s a visible reminder for all of us to do a self-check and see how mindful of the earth community we are in our daily choices. And it provides a valuable witness to all of our motherhouse visitors, and invites them to also consider how they can respond to our environmental crisis.”

S. Mary has met with Joe Wingbermuehle, motherhouse administrator. Plans call for the guidelines to be posted in each of the guest rooms, as well as the Von Steiger Dining Room. S. Mary also plans to make a presentation at an upcoming staff in-service.

“These guidelines offer broad directions for all of us,” she says. “What’s important is that each of us make changes to our lifestyle that better the life of our Earth. We only have one to care for.”

Environmental Guidelines

1. Discern environmental impacts for our choices: “How does this action/decision affect the earth community?” (Acts of Chapter 2013)
2. Be intentional in our use and purchase of consumer goods.
3. Reduce waste by eliminating single-use products.
4. Purchase fair-trade and environmentally-friendly products and services.
6. Transition to vehicles that use sustainable technology.
7. Evaluate our environmental footprint in our homes and province centers to increase energy efficiency.
8. Increase the use of renewable energy in heating, cooling, lighting and water.
10. Use environmental criteria in our corporate investment practices.
My ministry of working toward racial justice sprang from a talk I heard in 1955 when I was 13 years old in Wichita, Kansas. The speaker, Louis J. Twomey, SJ, was a professor at Loyola University in New Orleans, who lectured on ethics, jurisprudence and racial justice in the law school. He lectured in the Sodality Summer School of Catholic Action. He described life in New Orleans as being very different from my life in Wichita. New Orleans’ water fountains and restrooms were designated separately by race, and that wasn’t the only sign of hatred and inequality Fr. Twomey described. I couldn’t believe it. The blessing I received that day was that I became “woke” to the suffering and inhuman treatment people of color received in my country.

I continued to be called to “the More,” the charism of the Great Love of God and the dear neighbor by: stories of Dorothy Day, as told by my mother (also a CSJ associate) who heard her speak at Webster College in 1933; the encyclicals Rerum Novarum and Quadragesimo Anno; and my work with Msgr. John Shocklee in St. Louis and Fr. Geno Baroni in Washington D.C.

These experiences form my work and family life. My husband and I have a large multi-ethnic family with African, Middle Eastern, Asian and African-American children and spouses. We work in our Family Medicine Clinic, focusing on predominately Spanish-speaking families, many of whom are uninsured or are underinsured. Putting one foot in front of the other leads me to great adventures in accompanying patients through the trials of chemotherapy and follow-up appointments related to cancer treatment.

I am so blessed to belong to a predominately African-American parish, Cure d’Ars, where there is a very active social justice committee. We went on a life-changing pilgrimage this past summer to Birmingham and Montgomery, Alabama, visiting many sacred sites involved in the Civil Rights Movement, including the Legacy Museum, Lynching Memorial and the Southern Poverty Law Center.

I am greatly fed and nurtured by singing in the University of Denver’s Lamont School of Music’s Spirituals Project Choir. The choir was formed by Dr. Arthur Jones, a fellow parishioner. The mission of the choir is to “preserve and revitalize the music and teachings of the sacred songs called ‘spirituals’ … created by enslaved Africans in America in the 18th and 19th centuries.”

The richness and blessing of my life today comes from the call of Jesus through the CSJ charism to love one another without distinction. There isn’t a meeting on racial and social justice I don’t feel impelled to attend. We all are needed to show up and stand for justice.
What type of work are you doing at SJI?
I’m volunteering in the classroom on Wednesdays when they have a morning class of toddlers and an afternoon class of preschool children. So it’s a heavy day for Holly, the teacher. I’m an extra body in the room, an extra pair of hands—someone who can work with one child while she’s engaging with another. I’m really enjoying the work. It’s the highlight of my week.

What are you enjoying about it?
For my last 14 years of ministry, I worked in Alabama teaching daycare workers about recognizing red flags for children with disabilities. I’m putting that expertise into practice at the institute. And so a lot of the knowledge that I have been using in the past is coming right into play in my volunteering.

The students at SJI often have challenges in addition to their hearing loss so it sounds like your experience is a perfect fit for their student population.
I'm not a deaf educator. I'm special education. And so that really does fit in because they have children there that may be on the autism spectrum, children that are just having cognitive difficulties. The staff knows about the hearing aids and ear molds and cochlear implants and why something’s buzzing, and I do the play therapy.

You may not be a ‘deaf educator,” but you do have experience at SJI.
I spent five years at the deaf institute back in the late ’70s and early ’80s in residential care. That’s when kids came and lived at the University City location. And so, from my
experience and what I learned from the teachers of the deaf there, I can now put into practice.

And I actually used most of the information that I learned at the institute about speech and language development when I did my 14 years of early child development for the daycare workers. And all of that really helped me in my job when I worked for United Cerebral Palsy. Now I’m just plugging it back in.

I really feel like my career has been sandwiched in between the SJI experience that started me off and I’m now ending up there, so I think I’ve come full circle and I am glad that the opportunity presented itself.

Watching you in the classroom, I see you bring so much energy to it, and the kids really respond.

I do feel that early childhood education is one of my gifts. Now I worked many years at L’Arche with adults with disabilities, so I do feel that and special ed is my calling.

But I was so grateful for being able to work with the deaf, especially back in my original stint at the institute, because I felt that it was putting me in touch with the original reason our sisters came to the United States.

In fact, I took my final vows while I was at the institute, and I really think the reason I decided to take finals was because I felt so rooted in the CSJ charism by being there and working with the deaf children.

How do you see this opportunity continuing to live out the CSJ mission today?

I’m really very pleased that, as a CSJ, I can be doing something with the institute on a regular basis because I think that it really helps to continue the charism. I feel like I’m very much carrying on the charism by volunteering there.

The Delights of Dorm Life at SJI: “Plenty of playtime outside with the youngest residential boys,” says S. Mary Jo, sitting in front with one of the students. “My best guess, this was taken during the 1978-79 school year.”
Continuing the Journey Where All Are Welcome

Journey to New Life in Kansas City Opens Peace House, its newest residential housing solution for women out of prison

By Barbara Roberts, Director of Mission Advancement, Kansas City

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions: all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

— Excerpt from "All Are Welcome" sung at prayer service for Peace House.

Since its inception in 2015, Journey House has helped hundreds of women rebuild their lives after prison. Now, with the generosity and support of a group of Benedictine sisters, a new generation of women will be able find solace at Peace House.

At a ceremony last summer, the Benedictine sisters transferred ownership of Peace House in Kansas City, to Journey to New Life (JTNL). The Benedictine sisters owned the facility for 54 years. Two sisters recently lived at Peace House. Prior to this, the home provided shelter for women and children in need of short-term housing.

When the Benedictine sisters offered JTNL the opportunity to purchase Peace House at a "very reasonable price, it cleared one path for our Journey House ministry to grow," says Sister Rose McLarney, past chairperson and current board member at JTNL.
The other challenge to resolve was how to staff Peace House. A huge part of Journey House’s success was that the sisters lived with the residents, along with their resident manager, Sher Bialczyk, a past resident of Journey House. This combination provided the love and structure these women thrived upon, giving them a strong foundation as they re-entered society.

However, with the stark reality of aging and fewer sisters, S. Rose and the other sisters looked to a peer resident manager model for Journey House’s future. Around the same time, the State of Missouri created a certified peer specialist training program specifically for former incarcerated individuals who now wanted to work with others coming out of prison. Multiple graduates of Journey House, now on solid ground, expressed interest in this program. They stated how appreciative they were of the love and support they received at Journey House, and now wanted to help others coming up through the program to succeed. Prior to their full-time roles as peer mentors, the women were working in the food service industry and living independently in JTNL apartments.

Currently, one peer mentor and four women live at Peace House. Another peer mentor and six women reside in the former convent at St. Therese Little Flower, which JTNL is leasing. Additionally, a director of residents at JTNL was hired to direct the peer mentors.

By continuing to spread their charism of love of the dear neighbor without distinction, the sisters, as well as all at Journey to New Life, allow every individual, no matter her circumstances, to have quality participation in society. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet are proud partners of this tremendous effort. Truly, together ... we are more.

To learn more or to volunteer, go to journeytonewlife.org.
Elaine Darner, CSJA, started her association formation in the fall of 2012. Her husband George made his initial commitment in 2007, so Elaine already knew about the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. As you can guess, Elaine definitely had the CSJ charism way before she started her formation.

Elaine and George had five children. Family was of utmost importance and her marriage was likewise. She and George participated in Marriage Encounter weekends, helping facilitate several of these outings. Elaine started on her search of loving unity during these weekends, and their song during this time was, “I’d Like to Teach the World to Sing.”

Elaine and George were also commissioned pastoral ministers by St. Louisan Paul Zipfel, bishop of Bismark, North Dakota.

For many years, Elaine and George were members of St. Peter and Paul Church in St. Louis’ Soulard neighborhood. In a letter of recommendation for association in 2012, Sister Rose Marie Groppe shared how she had known Elaine for over 25 years through her ministry at the parish. She said this about Elaine:

Elaine values the presence of God in who she is in her family and friends and in everyone who comes into her life. She has a beautiful calling in being sensitive to a person’s needs in her healing ministry. She believes in living life to the fullest and gives of herself generously to the needs of others.

Elaine was attracted to the hospitality she experienced when she attended the “Linger Over Breakfast” gatherings. By the time Elaine made her associate commitment in 2014, she deeply identified with the CSJ mission. Her initial commitment statement included the following:

I, Elaine Darner, desire to make my commitment to the Sisters of St. Joseph and Associates because I want to give my life to living out love of God and the dear neighbor through a loving presence, which I experience here at Carondelet … The community has become my life and soul and I want to share their vision of loving unity with all in my life: home, family and neighbors.

When Elaine first became an associate in 2014, she was part of the Francis Associate Community. Sue Etling, also in this community, shared this memory:

I remember something Elaine said to God often in her prayers: ‘I don’t know, You do ... Show me.’ I think of this often and can hear Elaine saying it ... it never fails to bring my focus back to where it needs to be as well as putting a smile on my face. Thank you, Elaine, I miss you all the time!

Sister Rebecca Eichhorn knew Elaine through the Celestine Associate Community and recalls this memory:

Elaine had a delightful sense of humor and was quick to respond with a funny remark. Many a time she could take on George’s teasing and respond just as quickly with a witty remark.

In Elaine’s reflections, as she prepared to make her commitment, she wrote that she wanted to be in relationship with the sisters and associates because, “They are all loving, welcoming, and it feels like home.” Jesus showed Elaine the way to her heavenly, forever home, where she now is living fully and completely in the love of our Lord.
Sister James Patrick Corbett, CSJ
October 18, 1926 - November 4, 2019
Caring, humble, a hard worker, loved to entertain

By Sister Helen Oates

Harry and Elizabeth (Quigley) Corbett of St. Louis, Missouri, having previously welcomed sons Harry and Glen, were delighted to greet a daughter, Rosemary Adeline, on October 18, 1926. The youngest son, James Patrick, later completed the family. The four children attended Sacred Heart School on St. Louis Avenue (where the History Museum now stands) where they were taught by the Sisters of Loretto. Rosemary remembers happy times playing with her brothers, especially the summer activities that included roller skating, swimming and the freedom of a nearby park.

Her high school years were spent at Alphonsus Rock, staffed by the Notre Dame Sisters. There she made friends with several classmates that truly became "friends for life."

Rosemary worked at the Federal Reserve Bank for a year before entering the Sisters of St. Joseph on September 15, 1946. She received the habit and the name Sister James Patrick on March 19, 1947. (Her aunt, Sister Evarista Quigley, had been her connection to the Sisters of St. Joseph. Many years later, another family member entered the Sisters of St. Joseph, a cousin, Sister Kathleen Karbowski.)

Sister James Patrick spent 41 years teaching primary children, beginning briefly at St. Joseph Home for Boys (1949) followed by St. Anthony of Padua the same year, both in St. Louis. In 1950, she taught at St. Elizabeth's in Kansas City. While in Kansas City, she graduated from St. Teresa's College (1958). That same year, she was assigned to St. Francis de Sales in Denver, Colorado. The year 1966 found her in Wellston, Missouri, at Notre Dame de Lourdes. She returned to St. Anthony of Padua in 1972. Her teaching career ended where it started, at St. Joseph Home for Boys, teaching primary students in 1979. She was a tutor there until 1988.

S. James Patrick said she enjoyed all her missions but was quite fond of her time in Colorado. The sisters often made trips to the mountains and were fortunate to use some of the parishioners' summer places from time to time. One of her fondest memories from all her years of teaching primary students was the opportunity to prepare many children for their first communion. That gave her great joy.

In 1988, S. James Patrick began to work in the Province Treasurer's Office (currently the Finance Office). Sister Jean Paul Selissen recalls:

S. James Patrick could always be counted on for a funny story, many of which came from her years of teaching. She was always very proud of her brothers who served in WWII. One of those brothers was at Iwo Jima and was in the picture of the famous flag raising.

Sister Helen Oates was also in the office at that time and remembers:

S. James Patrick loved all things Irish—including speaking with an Irish brogue! Entertaining those of us who worked with her seemed to bring her joy—and there were so many stories! Yet she took seriously any task that was asked of her no matter whether it was tedious counting out of something for every sister or filing or the more enjoyable task of delivering items to other departments where she could bring a bit of laughter along with the item.

On December 30, 2004, S. James Patrick retired from the Finance Office. She and her longtime housemate, Sister Catherine Mary Boucher, prayed together and spent time making craft items for family and others. S. James Patrick also liked to read, crochet and put together scrapbooks. In 2006, both of them moved together to Nazareth Living Center to join the prayer and witness community. They also continued to keep busy working in the sewing room and making craft items.
Julia Teresa Shea was born on September 6, 1917, in St. Louis, Missouri, to parents Timothy and Julia (Sullivan) Shea who had come to the United States from County Kerry, Ireland. There were seven children in Julia’s family, four older siblings and two younger. She recalled:

“We just had a normal childhood, running and playing. We didn’t have parks nearby so we played in the alleys. Many a baseball game went on with the balls going into some neighbor’s yard ... But we had a lot of fun. We would go on hikes. We would just take bread and jelly or something along and have a great, great time. And all the children in that area were in the same financial status as we were. We didn’t have a whole lot, but we had enough.

Julia attended Notre Dame de Lourdes School through eighth grade and then Rosati-Kain High. After graduation, she went on to Fontbonne College for about a year. In time, she had classes at a few other places, finishing her degree in American/European history at Fontbonne College (St. Louis, 1951). Her master’s (in the same subject) was conferred by St. Louis University (1957). Julia entered the Sisters of St. Joseph on February 15, 1937, and received the habit as Sister Marie Venard, on August 15, 1937.

Beginning in 1939, she taught primary students, first at St. Louis Cathedral, St. Louis (1939); then at Bishop Baraga Central, Marquette, Michigan (1940); followed by two Missouri assignments: Assumption, St. Louis (1949) and St. Patrick, Rolla (1950).

In 1953, her teaching ministry moved to high school. S. Marie Venard taught at St. Joseph Academy, Green Bay, Wisconsin; St. Joseph’s Academy, St. Louis (1954); Reicher Catholic, Waco, Texas (1958); St. Thomas Aquinas, Florissant, Missouri (1960); St. Joseph, Atlanta, Georgia (1968); and St. Teresa’s Academy, Kansas City, Missouri (1969).

Sister Pat Murphy lived with S. Teresa at Aquinas High School: “I never saw her without a pleasant look on her face. She always looked alert, welcoming, and interested in what was going on or what you might have to say. She was a joy to live with.”

In 1975, S. Teresa began two years as a special education teacher at St. Joseph Vocational Center, St. Louis. She then started working in a different ministry, working as pastoral minister at Our Lady of the Presentation Parish, St. Louis, (1977–1983) and then at St. Bartholomew Parish, also in St. Louis, until 1988. After taking some time to reflect on her future, she began to minister as an assistant at Cardinal Ritter Institute Senior Day Care Center in St. Louis (1989). In 1997, S. Teresa volunteered as a driver for the Senior Ministry Office until 2005 when she moved to Nazareth Living Center to minister in prayer and presence.

In her 2006 oral history, she was asked about life after Vatican II:

“We were wearing whatever street clothes that other women wore. We were driving cars. We had quite a bit of say-so over our own lives, where we would go and what we would do, taking more trips and visiting friends outside the city, and visiting relatives and so on. I think it was a lot better. You became more your own person, I believe, in how you dressed, how you acted. You felt freer about stating your own personal ideas and opinions. I found it very, very beneficial. I would not have wanted to go back to the old ways at all.
By Sister Helen Oates

Orlando and Irene (Moorhem) Feager of St. Louis welcomed daughter Arlene Mary on February 13, 1936. Eventually, there were six children in the family. By the time Arlene was ready to start school, the family had moved to Sullivan, Missouri. “We had a happy childhood … Right next to our home was a vacant lot, which was like a playground.”

After two years in the public school, she continued her education at St. Anthony’s Catholic School, which consisted of three classrooms taught by School Sisters of Notre Dame. Since there was no Catholic high school in Sullivan, Arlene completed her education at the public school. Her dad died after a long illness, so after graduation, Arlene found work to help support the family.

At some point, Arlene confided in the pastor of her parish that she was interested in entering religious life. He happened to be familiar with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. One weekend, he drove her to Carondelet where she met the sisters for the first time. Just a single visit and she knew that Carondelet was where she belonged. She entered the community on September 15, 1958, receiving the habit on March 19, 1959, and the name S. Janet Mary. She earned her bachelor’s degree in education from Fontbonne College in 1963.

Sister Janet Mary’s ministry in elementary education began with three successive two-year assignments in Missouri: Immacolata Grade School, St. Louis (1963); St. Cecilia Grade School, St. Louis (1965) and Saints John and James Grade School, Ferguson (1967). St. James Grade School in Denver, Colorado, was S. Janet Mary’s next ministry (1969), followed by St. Catherine of Siena (1975).

“My memories of Janet are so positive,” shared Sister Mary Ann Figlino. “I enjoyed Janet’s way of enjoying the fun and laughter around here when we lived together at St. James in Denver.”

Returning to St. Louis in 1979, S. Janet Mary taught at St. Luke the Evangelist until 1988 when she moved to Holy Innocents School. In 1990, S. Janet Mary returned to Denver to St. Francis De Sales until she retired in 2010. She stayed in Denver during her first two years of retirement, volunteering at various tasks when able. She moved to Nazareth Living Center, joining the prayer and presence ministry in 2012.

Reflecting on her life, S. Janet said,

I’m just so grateful because I have been just so blessed throughout my whole community life. I have worked with such wonderful people, people who have been such wonderful mentors since I started out … The only thing that has been not so good is that I have had health problems. And that’s been very limiting.

S. Mary McGlone remembers S. Janet:

[She was] a dedicated teacher, as an explorer who was among the first to live in community outside convent walls, as a person of gentle presence, attentive to whomever was before her. Janet had a great deal of physical pain in her life, but she never spoke of it or complained. What she suffered seemed to not be worth sharing with others when there were so many other things to share … We are blessed to have had her as our sister.

S. Suzanne Giblin shares,

Gentleness, peace and joy describes my experience of Janet Mary. I am deeply grateful for the privilege of knowing her as a member of the same reception. Janet Mary had a quiet presence that radiated care for others, even though she lived with intense chronic pain throughout her vowed life. I … rejoice that she is free from pain and all that held her captive. Alleluia!
2020 Generosity of Joseph Gala Honorees Announced
by Marie McGeehan, Mission Advancement Manager

The Generosity of Joseph Honors Award publicly acknowledges and celebrates those whose generosity positively influences and contributes to the betterment of society and encourages others by example to practice life-altering generosity.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet proudly announce our 2020 Generosity of Joseph honorees, who will be honored on April 24 at the Carondelet Motherhouse:

Mary Sue Rosenthal Gee
Retired Director of Operations, Food Outreach St. Louis

Mary Sue, a former member of the Sisters of St. Joseph, served eight years as a volunteer and 20 years as director of operations for Food Outreach—the only St. Louis-area organization whose mission is to provide nutritional support and enhance the quality of life of men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS or cancer and hunger. Her years in the novitiate further instilled in her a mission of love and shaped her devotion to Food Outreach when she began to volunteer.

Sarah Jackson
Founder, Casa de Paz Denver, Colorado

Sarah's trip to the U.S./Mexico border with a humanitarian aid organization working on immigration issues forever changed her life and the lives of countless others. Upon returning to Colorado, she decided to do something about it and opened Casa de Paz in 2012. Since then, Casa de Paz has hosted more than 2,800 immigrants from 73 countries. She also started a volleyball league whose profits pay the operating expenses. Sarah's hope and prayer is to help ease the isolating experience of immigrant detention, one simple act of love at a time.

Rev. Gerald Waris
Founding Board Member, Journey to New Life Kansas City, Missouri

Father Waris' recognition and defense of the human dignity in all, as well as his promotion of justice for the poor, is seen in his continued pastoral work in the Kansas City area, and his service and leadership as a founding board member of Journey to New Life, an organization that restores opportunity for those re-entering life after prison. In his 50-plus years as a priest, he has ministered at several parishes in the Kansas City area, in affluent areas to those in the urban core, serving all without distinction.

Dan Winkelmann, RPh, CSJA
Owner/Pharmacist, Winkelmann Sons Drug St. Louis, Missouri

The Sisters of St. Joseph have benefitted from Dan and his family's 105-year-old business. Medications are delivered to the Carondelet Motherhouse with a special discount to the sisters, as well as providing them to the residents and sisters at Nazareth Living Center. Dan also travels annually to Nepal as part of a medical team, tending to the sick in the remote areas of the country.

READ MORE ABOUT OUR HONOREES AT CSJSL.ORG.
Events & Happenings

Mardi Gras Celebration
Sunday, Feb. 9
10 a.m. Liturgy
Carondelet
Motherhouse

Celebrate with us to meet and congratulate our newest associates: Kim Bernard, Doris Dimaya, Claire Gunn, Donna Horsford, Linda Renaud, Heather Rich and Dee White. RSVP by Feb. 3 to kkomotos@csjsl.org or 314-678-0317. Learn more at csjsl.org.

Feast of St. Joseph Mass & Dinner
Thursday, March 19
4:30 p.m. Mass
Carondelet
Motherhouse

Sisters and associates are invited to gather for the annual celebration of the Feast of St. Joseph. Mass will open the celebration, with dinner to follow. The event is sponsored by the Celebrating Our Heritage Committee.

Reservations are required by March 10. RSVP online at csjsl.org, email motherhousersvp@csjsl.org or call 314-481-8800.

2020 Jubilee Celebration
Sunday, March 15 | 11 a.m. Mass
Holy Family Chapel

An hors d’oeuvres reception to follow in the vonSteiger Dining Room.

RSVP by Feb. 28 online at csjsl.org, email motherhousersvp@csjsl.org or call 314-481-8800.

*For CSJ sisters and associates only.

Dining to Donate

Enjoy a great meal with family and friends, and help the Sisters of St. Joseph at the same time.

Twenty percent of sales will go towards the good work of the sisters.

ST. LOUIS: Favazza’s on the Hill
Wednesday, March 25 | 5-9 p.m.
5201 Southwest Avenue | favazzas.com

KANSAS CITY: Jasper’s
Wednesday, March 25
11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
1201 W. 103rd St. | jasperskc.com

St. T eresa’s Academy

Sponsored by:
Sisters of Selma: The March to Dismantle Racism Continues

with Barbara Moore, CSJ & Rosemary Flanigan, CSJ

Saturday, Feb. 29
9-11 a.m.
St. Teresa’s Academy,
Windmoor Center

Sponsored by

Avila University
St. Teresa’s Academy

2020 Generosity of Joseph Honors Gala
Friday, April 24

FOR MORE NEWS AND EVENTS, VISIT CSJSL.ORG.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEB 23</td>
<td>CLG Gathering w/Mass &amp; Brunch</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB 29</td>
<td>Linger Over Breakfast KC</td>
<td>St. Teresa’s Academy</td>
<td>9 - 11 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 2-4</td>
<td>Council/Corporation Mtgs.</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 15</td>
<td>Jubilee Celebration</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 19</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s Day</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 25</td>
<td>Dining to Donate KC</td>
<td>Jasper’s</td>
<td>11:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 25</td>
<td>Dining to Donate SIL</td>
<td>Favazza's on the Hill</td>
<td>5 - 9 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR 24</td>
<td>Generosity of Joseph Honors Gala</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR 26</td>
<td>Remembering Our Sister Saints</td>
<td>Resurrection Cemetery</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 4-6</td>
<td>Council/Corporation Mtgs.</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE 7-13</td>
<td>Creative Spirits Retreat</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JULY 31 - AUG 2</td>
<td>Province Assembly</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUG 15</td>
<td>50th Jubilee Celebration</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 8</td>
<td>Uncorked</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td>6 - 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 15</td>
<td>Founders Day</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 15</td>
<td>KC Wine and Chocolate</td>
<td>Avila University</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT 24</td>
<td>Linger Over Breakfast KC</td>
<td>Avila University</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOV 2</td>
<td>All Souls Day</td>
<td>Motherhouse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOR MORE EVENT DETAILS, VISIT CSJSL.ORG

CLG GATHERING with Mass and Brunch

SUNDAY, FEB 23
Carondelet
Motherhouse

Sisters and associates are invited to gather with the Congregational Leadership Group. Join us for all or part of the day.

9 a.m.: Eucharist in Holy Family Chapel, followed by brunch in the dining room

11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.: Gathering in the Celestine Room (snacks and drinks available)

RSVP to 314-481-8800 or motherhousersvp@csjsl.org, or online at csjsl.org.