Together
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet & Consociates
St. Paul Province

Joseph

Went deeper.
Journeyed farther.
Responded boldly.
Dared to be prophetic.
February 6, 2020

Our dear sisters and all who share in our charism,

GO DEEPER. JOURNEY FARTHER. RESPOND BOLDLY. DARE TO BE PROPHETIC.

This is what we promised to one another when we gathered at our congregational chapter in July of 2019. Now, as we begin our service to you as the Congregational Leadership Team, we are so aware that what we were calling our “future direction” is NOW. As a team, we have taken the time to pray, dialogue, ponder, listen, and dream in order to arrive at some decisions in the way that we would like to walk with all of you in living out this direction. As we move into our future, we know that we will be evolving with the signs of the times and our lived reality. This is a beginning. We invite you to join us in prayer and action as we take these first steps.

We believe that the commitments expressed in the Statement of Future Direction (2019 Acts of Chapter, p. 2-3) are of utmost importance:

- Respond to the crisis of Earth and global warming,
- Deepen awareness of our complicity and work toward dismantling interlocking systems of oppression,
- Articulate and authentically live our vows in ways that witness and speak to today’s realities,
- Walk with women as we claim our voice and work toward an inclusive church and society,
- Use our collective voice to accompany others in speaking their truth.

Therefore, we will connect as a team, rather than through a liaison, with the congregation’s Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Working Group. We hope this new approach will help in deepening our understanding of the implications of these commitments, discovering strategies, and possibilities of increased partnerships and looking for creative ways to communicate our message to a wider world.
At this end of this letter, you will find a list of all of the congregational working groups, committees, and task forces and which CLT member(s) will serve as liaisons to each. Although there are persons and groups with specific tasks, every one of us must ask ourselves individually and in community: How can we GO DEEPER. JOURNEY FARTHER. RESPOND BOLDLY. DARE TO BE PROPHETIC?

May the Spirit guide us as we strive to make all decisions through the lens of unifying love.

Your sisters,

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

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For Sisters, Consociates, Friends, and Partners in Mission

EARTH: Our Common Home

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2020
Time: Gathering: 8:30 a.m.
Meeting: 9:00 a.m. to Noon
Lunch: Noon
Place: Carondelet Center Dining Room

For Discussion: Come review and provide feedback on the CSJ Community Environmental Sustainability Plan 2020. Determine priorities and help move the plan forward. Explore what you can do on the ground with the ground.

Donations: In the spirit of sharing the Earth’s bounty, our donations this month will go to the St. Kate’s Food Shelf, a shared program between the Sisters of St. Joseph (Celeste’s Dream) and St. Kate’s. In our third year we serve approximately 250-300 students each month. We work with community leader student interns, faculty, staff and other volunteers to run the food shelf. Fall 2019 community leader intern, Alma Silver highlights this meaningful work: “Working toward food access for all cultivates a holistic cycle of community members caring for one another.” Donations will be matched during the month of March. You can also bring hygiene items for collection on the day of Community Assembly.
Save these Dates

**Sisters Appreciation Day**, hosted by the Knights of Columbus, is Sunday, March 22 from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church Hall, 4030 Jackson Street NE, Columbia Heights, MN. The day includes a social, games, and supper. R.S.V.P. to Linus Ulfig, 651-636-2382.

A **Saturday Siftings**: Finding Peace in Stressful Times will be held on Saturday March 28, 9:30-11:30 a.m. in Carondelet Center, room 101. Discussion questions include: How do you maintain inner peace? What stresses you? How do you settle yourself? Light refreshments will be provided. Donations will be taken at the door. R.S.V.P. by March 20 to Linda Crosby, 651-600-3595, lindakcrosby@msn.com. Sponsored by the Consociate Education and Spiritual Development Committee.

You are invited to the **Ritual of Consociate Commitment and Candidate Welcome** Friday, May 1, 2020, 7:00 p.m., Our Lady of the Presentation Chapel. Come and welcome the new candidates beginning their journey of candidacy as well as new Consociates who will make their commitment. All are welcome. Reception to follow. We hope to see you there!

**DR. CATHERINE HOEGEMAN, CSJ** writes about **BISHOPS** Sister Katie, member of the L.A. province and associate professor of sociology and anthropology at Missouri State University, has published *Catholic Bishops in the United States: Church Leadership in the Third Millennium*. The book reveals the U.S. bishops' individual experiences, their day-to-day activities, their challenges and satisfactions as Church leaders, and their strategies for managing their dioceses and speaking out on public issues. Read more about it in an article from Missouri State, [https://blogs.missouristate.edu/mindseye/unveiling-the-mysteries-of-the-catholic-church/](https://blogs.missouristate.edu/mindseye/unveiling-the-mysteries-of-the-catholic-church/)
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is recognized as a day of service. This year the employees of the Sisters of St Joseph in St. Paul took it further and named the whole week of January 20-24 Service Week. Service opportunities included:

• **Monday** in the afternoon at Carondelet Village, a roomful of people screened the TPT documentary “Jim Crow of the North” which was followed by a group discussion. That evening a group of 20 Sisters, Consociates and Partners in Mission attended the evening screening and discussion of “I am Not Your Negro” at the Penumbra Theatre.

• **Wednesday** featured Advocacy Writing for Prison Ministry with Sisters Ruth Brooker and Baya Clare. Employees wrote their congressional representatives urging better treatment and cost parity for female prisoners. It was a learning experience as well, since most of us have little idea of what goes on behind prison walls and what is expected of inmates.

• **Thursday** was an evening at the Ronald McDonald House (RMH) at Children’s Minnesota—Minneapolis Hospital serving dinner to families supported by RMH. Another program to discover, learning the many ways RMH supports families while their child is hospitalized. Tacos were on the menu so there was a lot of chopping. In the end we served about 125 people, mostly parents and grandparents of the Hospital’s young patients.
Finally, to support the St. Catherine University Food Shelf at Carondelet Center, employees collected personal care items. While food donations are the obvious donations to a food shelf, students also struggle to afford basic care items such as shampoo, lotion and soap. It was a good reminder that while most of us think nothing of running to Target or Walgreens when supplies are low, there are many among us who do not have that luxury.

A very big thank you for the CSJ Employee Hygiene Drive! We collected 127 pounds for the St. Kate’s Food Shelf. We put the items out for today’s food shelf and nearly all of the items were distributed to students. Learning: one CSJ Employee Hygiene Drive provides enough personal care products for one food shelf. We average 125 students per food shelf.

Thanks again!
Jennifer Tacheny and the food shelf team.
I met with Althea Johns at the Bistro and she started out with, “I love to travel.” Stories followed.

Althea spent the first 24 years of her life with her parents in Royal Oak, Michigan. As a ten-year old she and her sister Nancy attended religion classes and “caught on” to prayers, Bible stories, and a sense of belonging to a community. Her father Clarence told her: “If you’re going to be a Catholic, be a good one.” It was an eye-opener to her immediate family to see Althea choose the religious life as she had motorcycles and was known as, “Hell on Wheels.” She also held atypical jobs for a woman—she was a pipe cutter and forklift driver and was always busy.

Althea entered the second phase of her life as a Sister of the Our Lady of Charity in Ohio in 1973. She chose the names “Philip” after the Apostle, and “Lawrence,” patron saint of cooks. The order’s mission was to care for special needs children. The nuns fulfilled this mission by living with and caring for 250 special needs children. During this time, she completed a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education/Special Education from Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio.

Althea learned many caregiving skills and continued a deep friendship with her friend, Margaret, who was also a Sister in the order. Margaret sustained a disabling injury that was followed by multiple surgeries. They continued to be friends until Margaret’s death in November 2019—a 46-year friendship. Over time, Althea became “burnt out” and her spiritual director recommended a sabbatical.

Althea came to Minnesota. The Sisters of Saint Joseph’s (CSJs) attracted her with their welcome and their bold moves in social justice.

In the third phase of her life with the CSJs, Althea was employed as a Job Specialist and worked in this position for 15 years. Althea is most proud of receiving the 2005 Job Specialist of the Year Award. She enjoys bringing people together. Having been to Ireland four times explains why she feels Irish at heart. Althea is Irish by absorption and has perfected her Irish Soda Bread recipe for her gatherings and sales.

When asked about what messages she would like to share with the community, Althea had two answers:
1. “Be kind to one another.”
2. “To be an active part of the community that I truly love. Being a transfer from another community it has been a match from heaven.”
To Joseph


Can you believe, Joseph, come March 19th, I will have carried your name for forty years. Along with so many, many other women, I sign CSJ after my name. It means the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph, often paraphrased as the Congregation of the Great Love of God.

In the very early years, I must admit, Joseph, I really didn’t know quite what to make of you. You were rather like a prop in the drama of life. I carried your picture in my missal and put you under the glass on my desk. The images I chose depicted you as a young, handsome man, with a dark beard and a rather prominent nose. It left no doubt that truly you were the son of David. You were always working, Joseph, so a T-square or a hammer were close by. Statues were another story. They were never mine to choose. With one exception, you were an older man, dressed in light brown and you usually held a staff with a blooming lily on top.

Scripture, too, had little to reveal about you in those early readings. Joseph. You usually came across as a rather non-man, sterile with no seeds to sow, but useful. You accommodated God by being the protector of Mary and her son.

But it is the inscription on the base of one statue that has carried me for forty years: “Ite ad Joseph” (Go to Joseph). You, Joseph, have begun to lift the veil that shrouds the Mystery of Divine Glory. Scripture tells us that this is how the Word of God became flesh:

You, Joseph, the espoused of Mary, were an upright man. You discovered that Mary was with child not of your seed. Being upright, you were unwilling to expose her to the law, and decided to divorce her quietly.

As I ponder the words Matthew chose to describe you, Joseph, you tell me you had no other option than to act in the way you did. You were put to the test, but as Beloved of God, you could only do as you did.

Missives

A gift of a heifer has been made to Heifer International in honor of our Jubilarians.

Catherine Jenkins, CSJ
Consociate

On May 1, 2019, ten new people made their Consociate commitments. Since that time, we have been printing one statement per month in Together. This month’s statement is from Sandy Burton. It has been slightly revised from her original statement, which can be found in the Consociate Services section of Forum.

Over the course of my candidacy process I have become friends with the ten other Consociate candidates in my group. These are lovely spiritual women whom I am honored to know. Beyond this group I have gotten to know the wider community of Consociates and Sisters of St. Joseph. When I read and discovered the work that has been done by these individuals and the things they have accomplished, I want more than ever to be a part of this fellowship. The Sisters of St. Joseph and Consociates are a group of feisty, strong and persistent body of people I want to be a part of. What has drawn me to the Consociate program are the values modeled by my parents. My father was active in many causes – serving on the local school board which set the visions and goals for the school district that my brothers, sisters and I attended, being on a commission to protect and enhance the water resources of the local watershed, serving on a committee to build a nursing home in my small town. His involvement allowed me to witness the value of being engaged in the community. My mother was a woman of great faith and humility. The Sisters of St. Joseph are named after a saint who also was humble. There is little written about Joseph’s life in the Bible, but like my mother he taught us a person can do good without using words, without preaching, without fuss. Simply set a good example. As a Consociate, I bring life experiences that have transformed me and forever changed the way I look at the world. One of those experiences was being in a long, loving relationship with an African American. I now have a better understanding and being a witness to the black experience in our country.
Another life experience I have dealt with is loss. I have lost all those who were most dear to me. My first husband died at age 31 and I became a young mother with a 2-year-old child with a serious heart defect. Six years later my child died the day after Christmas. I was blessed to fall in love with another wonderful man and we shared 27 years together. For the last 13 years of our marriage, he endured prostate cancer and died in 2015. Grief has become a part of who I am. Grief has changed me. I have much more empathy and compassion now. I am not so quick to judge now. I know some of life’s lessons are terribly painful. I can no longer look at those who are suffering and not have sorrow, too. I knew I was being guided to join this amazing sisterhood and brotherhood of Consociates and Sisters when I picked up a prayer card at the Carondelet Center that read “As a day laborer Joseph had little, yet he had compassion, and that was everything.”

Joseph, most ordinary, on this your feast, help us listen to our dreams with compassion and openness as you did. Help us stretch, hold, and deepen our relationships. Open our embrace of the future as you opened your arms to a child not your own. In these hard times may we like you dream compassionately, provide wisely, and build community that can hold us together. We ask this through Jesus, whom you claimed and named. Amen.
March brings the celebration of St. Patrick. St. Patrick is identified as the “primary” patron saint of Ireland. Two others are identified as well: St. Brigid of Kildare and St. Columba.

Throughout the 169 years the Sisters of St. Joseph have been in St. Paul, 103 young women entered the Novitiate from Ireland. There were another 118 born in Ireland who came to America and entered from other states or other towns in Minnesota.

Among the last Sisters to enter the Novitiate from Ireland were:

- **Sister Clemence Kielty** (who entered the Superior CSJs from Boyle County Roscommon). She worked as an x-ray technician at hospitals in Wisconsin.

- **Sister Rita Clare Brennan** (entered the St. Paul Novitiate from Borrisokane, Tipperary, Ireland) was a nurse in hospitals in Minnesota and North Dakota. She then moved to hospital administration in roles as personnel director, administrator, and superior. Sister Rita Clare spent four years in Peru as a superior at the military hospital.

- **Sister Carmena Lawlor** (from Glendahalin, Ballyheigue, County Kerry, Ireland) was a teacher at St. Columba and St. Mark (St. Paul); and St. Margaret’s Academy, St. Anthony (Principal) in Minneapolis, and, Academy of Holy Angels (Richfield).

- Other teachers include Sisters Edna Keany, Agnesita Leen, Margarita Roche and many more.

- Those who served in hospitals include: Sisters Abigail Desmond, Maxentia McGlynn, and Enda Smiddy.

Among those who came to America for a better life in the mid-19th Century were the Ireland family members: Mother Seraphine Ireland, Mother Celestine Howard, and Mother St. John Ireland.

To learn more about the Sisters who came to us from Ireland and for more information about the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph, check out the Archives website at https://csjstpaul.org/our-heritage-csj/, and our online collection at http://csjstpaul.pastperfectonline.com/.
UPDATE FROM LEARNING IN STYLE SCHOOL

We welcomed new and returning students to our school, we celebrated the different cultures of our students through food, dress and art, and we hosted Breck students – they helped us in the classroom and the Children’s Room.

WE WELCOMED NEW STUDENTS TO THE SCHOOL AND WELCOMED CURRENT STUDENTS BACK FROM BREAK

We continue to register new students throughout the school year. Some have just arrived as new immigrants and refugees, others are taking their first big step to learn English after being in the United States for a number of years. We are delighted to have these new students in our classrooms. January was a cold and snowy month but attendance was strong. We made the decision to make our parking lot one way in the fall which has made winter driving and parking much easier and safer for students and staff.

WE HOSTED CULTURE DAY FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL

Our students come from all over the world - literally. We have students from Vietnam, China, Somalia, Russia, Guatemala, and Mexico, just to name a few. We hosted a culture week where students could bring in their traditional dress, food and art and teach staff and fellow students about the traditions of their native lands. We ate delicious food, experienced henna painting on our hands and thoroughly enjoyed learning about all the wonderful traditions of so many countries.

BRECK STUDENTS JOINED US

Students from Breck School (an independent college-preparatory preK-12 school in Golden Valley) joined us as they fulfilled their day of service requirement. They helped out in the Children’s Room and in the classrooms. As part of our community outreach strategy we encourage area schools to volunteer with us. It gives everyone an opportunity to learn.
We welcome our three St. Kate’s Community Leader Interns working with Celeste’s Dream and Justice during spring semester. Here is a brief introduction of our interns and a sense of what they will be working on. Please welcome Clara, Erica and Ellen when you see them in the Administration Building.

Clara Godoy-Henderson (returning intern): “I’m excited and grateful to continue to be part of such a vibrant CSJ community that works on justice, sustainability, and food insecurity. This semester I hope to introduce local foods into the dining services at St. Kate’s by submitting a proposal to expand the community gardens outside of the Coeur de Catherine. My second focus will be attempting to solve broader food insecurity issues on campus with a leadership team. We hope to reduce food insecurity and food waste at St. Catherine University. My passions revolve around serving people, living a healthy life, and gardening.”

Erica Olson: “Hello! My name is Erica Olson, and I am excited about the opportunity to work as a spirituality and justice intern. I am a junior and will graduate in May 2021 with a Bachelor of Science in nursing. This semester, I want to focus on promoting the food shelf and hope to spend sunny afternoons planting and harvesting the community gardens. Additionally, I anticipate partnering and collaborating with similar groups on campus to promote sustainability and social justice on and off campus!”

Ellen Hiestand: “Hi, my name is Ellen Hiestand and I am a junior at St. Catherine University majoring in public health and starting occupational therapy school in the summer. I have lived in the Twin Cities my whole life and love listening to music, being outdoors, travelling, and spending time with my family and friends. I am so excited to begin my work as a CSJ spirituality and justice coordinator with Celeste’s Dream, the St. Kate’s Food Shelf, and the CSJ justice office. This semester, I hope to work with Healthcare for All while helping coordinate the various projects associated with the food shelf, community gardens, and sustainability issues on campus. I am looking forward to the challenges and learning experiences that lie ahead!”
Sarah’s Mantras:
- You are a good woman.
- You can do it!
- You come to Sarah’s in order to leave.
- Sarah’s will always be your home.
- One lesson at a time. One woman at a time. One day at a time.
- May peacemaking prevail on Earth today!

Sarah’s... an Oasis for Women

“Sarah’s will always be your home.” is one of Sarah’s six mantras. This mantra reminds us that above all, Sarah’s is a home. Sarah’s was built in 1965 as Derham Convent, the home of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Paul Province. In 1975, it hosted the Derham Community, promoting personal growth for Sisters. In 1996, it became Sarah’s... an Oasis for Women; ... a home for women from all over the world who are homeless and without resources. Sarah’s welcomes women who have survived violence, abuse, torture, war, discrimination and trauma. Because Sarah’s is a home, the women are able to accomplish their goals and revive their spirits in order to prepare for life beyond Sarah’s. Our hope is that women who have lived at Sarah’s will perpetuate peace as contributing members in their new communities with newly developed skills, revitalized confidence, determination, and courage. Sarah’s is always home for current and former staff, residents and volunteers. We gather as a family once a year in July for our annual reunion. Sarah’s “Welcome Home” Breakfast Buffet and Benefit gives us the opportunity to share our home with those in our community who support Sarah’s. “Sarah’s is a quiet and peaceful place, managed by good people. Sarah’s will help me to develop hope, live again and face life. I will again find a home and a community as I meet the many people at Sarah’s,” a current resident.

Welcome Home
Breakfast Buffet & Benefit

Wednesday, June 10, 2020
Anderson Center
Hamline University
774 Snelling Avenue North
Saint Paul, Minnesota
8:00 ~ 9:30 AM

Join us as we honor the strength and resilience of Sarah’s residents, staff, and volunteers who have created a loving home for women starting new lives grounded in hope and courage.

The event is free, but an RSVP is requested.
Call 651-696-8672 or visit www.sarahsoasis.org for more information.
CSJ Justice Office Welcomes a New Justice Associate!

The CSJ Justice Office is very excited to welcome Ashley Lopez as a new Justice Associate. Ashley shares, “I am overjoyed and grateful to be joining the CSJ Justice Office! I have spent my career working in education, social service and youth development, and I am currently pursuing a Masters in Advocacy and Political Leadership at Metropolitan State University. I have always been deeply passionate about social justice issues, and I am ready to take my career in a new direction which allows me to focus on what is most important to me.”

Stop by the CSJ Justice Office to meet and welcome Ashley to the CSJ community.

Systemic Change and Racism

Recently, there have been important conversations about whiteness and racism in the CSJ community. On MLK Day for example, many residents at Carondelet Village gathered with members of the Justice Commission’s Confronting Whiteness and Racism Working Group to view the MN TPT documentary “Jim Crow of the North.” Those gathered learned and had a robust conversation about racial covenants in property deeds, our Minnesota history, and racism. We invite the community to look for more educational opportunities and conversation in March on these topics and current St. Catherine University research on racial covenants in St. Paul and Ramsey County.

Members of this Working Group have also been discussing our Minnesota State Constitution. A specific clause in the Minnesota State Constitution still “allows” slavery in the state according to Article I, Section 2 which reads:

“There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the state otherwise than as punishment for a crime of which the party has been convicted.”

Now we realize that this is our State Constitution. It is clearly much more difficult to amend/change our state constitution than to create a new law or other legislation. In 2020 though, it is hard to imagine that there would be many Minnesotans or legislators who would get up to profess publicly that they support slavery. What would it take to get Minnesotans and our legislators to actually vote to amend and remove this wording which still allows a condition in which slavery can exist in the State?

Slavery for any “reason” doesn’t reflect our CSJ and our MN state values. 162 years after the State of Minnesota banned slavery and servitude after the Civil War, why is it still allowed to exist in our Constitution even if it is an exception, slavery is still being allowed? Maybe there is something we all can do this Legislative Session to correct and remove this language in our MN Constitution? We learn, raise awareness AND we ALL can be a part of creating systemic change!
March 2020 Justice Commission Working and Task Group Reports. The:

**Plan to join us for special Feast of St. Joseph Day activities at the St. Kate’s Ballroom on the afternoon of March 10 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. Help out with service projects with Amicus and Breaking Free. Sign postcards to advocate on a variety of social justice issues. Try your wit with the CSJ & Justice Trivia wheel. Don’t miss the celebration of St. Joseph with St. Kate’s students on March 10.**

**Justice Commission** joined other faith leaders from around the state at the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition’s FAITH LEADERS SUMMIT at the Minnesota State Capitol on February 20. This new summit focused on homelessness issues impacting Minnesota and supporting state bonding money for affordable housing.

**Confronting Whiteness and Racism** (formerly the Dismantling Racism) **Working Group** hosted Dr. Stanley from St. Kate’s as the evening speaker at the February 11th Day Peace Prayer. The group is also reaching out to support grassroots efforts to raise awareness about and advocating to remove language in Article 1, Section 2 of the MN State Constitution which still permits slavery to exist in Minnesota.

**Criminal Justice Working Group** welcomed Sr. Helen Prejean for a special evening on February 27 at St. Catherine University. The group hosted Criminal Justice Organizations and offered opportunities for practical advocacy on timely criminal justice issues.

**Earth Partners Working Group** continues working with a team developing the CSJ Province Sustainability Plan. Earth Partners members are also working with St. Kate’s students to plan Earth Week Activities for the last week in April.

**Gospel of Life Task Group** hosted a February screening of the film “Unplanned” at Carondelet Village. Throughout the Month of February, the Group also organized a collection of supplies for our dear neighbors experiencing homelessness as a part of Fairview’s Caring Hearts Supply Drive for Homeless People. The group collected donations at the CSJ Administration Center, Carondelet Center, and Carondelet Village. We are grateful to everyone that donated to this special project in partnership with the Fairview Foundation. Thank you!

**Immigration Working Group** members continue to participate in morning vigils at the Whipple Federal Building on the second Tuesday of every month. Members are also looking forward to attending a special evening lecture from immigration activist, Jose Antonio Vargas, at the MIA on the evening of March 26.

**Legislative Advocacy Partners (LAP) Working Group** is excited about the beginning of the 2020 MN Legislative Session. LAP members will work closely with CSJ Working and Task Groups to advocate for social issues. Watch for LAP action alerts for practical ways to engage in systemic change work through advocacy throughout the Session.

**Native American Awareness Working Group**

1. On April 18, we are collaborating with the Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning, the University of St. Thomas, and the church of Gichtwaa Kateri for a presentation by Black Elk scholar Damian Costello, Ph.D.

2. We are exploring having a conversation with the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation about their study on homelessness, since Native Americans are disproportionately represented in the local homeless population. www.wilder.org/wilder-research/research-library/homelessness-minnesota-2018-study

3. We continue to deepen our relationship with Rep. Mary Kunesh-Podein through our support of her work this legislative session, e.g. the MN Task Force on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. (Mary has recently decided to run for the MN State Senate, District 41 in the 2020 election.)

**Ritual Task Group** invites you to the next 11th Day Peace Prayer on Wednesday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. hosted with the St. Kate’s Women Center. The theme is “International Women’s Day.” Students will offer reflections and lead this month’s prayers.

**NOTE:** the April 11th Day Peace Prayer will be Rescheduled due to Holy Saturday/Easter Triduum Services. Watch for upcoming information about our April Peace Prayer as a part of our CSJ Earth Day festivities.
One of the underlying values of the St Joseph Worker year is intentionality. Deliberate, most-often coordinated planning makes community life run smoothly and helps us to fulfill personal goals. I’ve certainly grown while learning how to live more intentionally; I associate the word with simplicity, with listening to the Spirit.

But the border reminded me that not all intentions are good.

Because this scene in front of me (present tense memory) is not accidental. It’s not down to chance that these people seeking asylum get no representation or translation in the long-awaited sham hearings, it’s policy. The families here don’t just happen to be here: there are reasons they’ve left their homes, reasons of violence, poverty (that is, violence), instability. Those conditions in turn are the result of decades and centuries of exploitation, of hundreds and thousands (but not hundreds of thousands, surely?) of men choosing profit over people.

So those of us who want to pick people over profit really have to be intentional about it. We need to understand that we are going against the current of half a millenium, a current that has eroded institutions to its liking and benefit. We must consider that perhaps, in order to turn the tide, we may have to do a little more than call our Senators. Whatever our decision, we must do it together.
Transformation Springtime for the Soul
all are most welcome!

Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and Consociates

Sundays at 4:30 PM
Our Lady of the Presentation Chapel
1885 Randolph Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105m 651-690-7000

3/1: Retreat; reflection by Christine Treanor, CSJC
3/8: Revelation; reflection by Sandy Dodson, CSJC
3/15: Conversion; reflection by Sharon Howell, CSJ
3/29: Compassion; reflection by Andrea Pearson Tande, CSJC
Every Tuesday evening from January to early June, Susan Oeffling, CSJ, and Deborah Chernick faithfully lead Christian Meditation at Wisdom Ways. The weekly sessions go from 7:00-7:40pm and include a short reading and one 25-minute meditation. This form of contemplative prayer is a way to move beyond words, thoughts, and images to a Holy Silence within.

On Tuesdays, whatever the weather, people gather for the first time for many years and sit in silent meditation with one another. Because of Susan and Deborah, many, many people have deepened their personal practice of prayer. Through the years, people have shared how this prayer practice has made them aware of a deeper commitment to love self and others. Some sense a more generative emotional health and well-being through a contemplative practice.

Susan and Deborah also facilitate morning meditations during Advent, Lent and on Holy Saturday. They have provided support when Wisdom Ways hosted expert Christian Meditation teachers for adults and children such as Father Laurence Freeman, Cynthia Cominsky, CSJ, Dr. Cathy Day and Ernie Christie.

The following reveals the impact and interest of Christian Meditation offerings over the last four years at Wisdom Ways:

- 2016—391 participants
- 2017—419 participants
- 2018—463 participants
- 2019—501 participants

In this prayer practice, we disengage from forms and thoughts, desires and emotions, and allow ourselves to be submerged in the draw of divine love. – Eileen O’Hea, CSJ
Looking Ahead:
Along with the Tuesday evenings, March and April will include additional opportunities for you to experience Christian Meditation during Lent.

• **Tuesday Noonday Meditation**  
  March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, and April 7, 2020  
  12:00 – 12:40 p.m. No cost.

• **Morning Meditation Retreat**  
  Saturday, March 7, 2019  
  9:00 am – 12:00 p.m. $7.50 for CSJs and Consociates

• **Holy Saturday Meditation**  
  Saturday, April 11, 2020  
  9:00 – 10:15 a.m. No Cost.

Call Wisdom Ways at 651-696-2788 to learn more about the Christian Meditation offerings.

“Prayer is sitting in silence until it silences us…”  
– Richard Rohr, O.F.M

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**Carondelet Gala**

Are you a CSJ thinking about attending the Carondelet Gala? **We need your help!**

If you want to help the Ministries Foundation acquire more guests and better support the ministries, please call Alyssa Howells at 651-690-7026.

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**2020 Carondelet Gala**

**Celebrating Networks of Hope & Healing**

**Friday, May 8, 2020 • Intercontinental MSP Airport Hotel**
ST. MARY’S HEALTH CLINICS FAQS

People frequently ask about the services offered by St. Mary’s Health Clinics and what type of patients are served. So here are a few tidbits to clarify some of those questions.

Q. Where are St. Mary’s Clinics located?
A. St. Mary’s has seven clinic locations throughout the Twin Cities, operating Monday through Thursday in donated space from churches, schools and other clinics.

Q. What is the primary age group served?
A. St. Mary’s serves primarily an adult population, ages 18-65. The majority of patients are women (66%) and the average age of patients is 48.

Q. Who provides care to St. Mary’s Patients?
A. Care is provided in the clinic setting by volunteer physicians or nurse practitioners, along with volunteer clinic registered nurses. A volunteer physician medical director oversees the medical care provided. Nursing Supervisors are employed registered nurses who provide care coordination and oversee the management of clinic sites and an assigned group of patients. Also serving the patients are volunteer interpreters, drivers and admitting clerks.

Q. How does a person get an appointment at St. Mary’s?
A. St. Mary’s serves a very specific population. Patients are ineligible for health insurance and live within 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. If patients don’t meet these criteria, they are referred to other free clinics or a Federally Qualified Health Clinic. The fulltime scheduler reviews a person’s eligibility and arranges appointments for those eligible patients, and eligibility is reviewed annually.

Q. What if a patient needs to see a specialist?
A. St. Mary’s has longstanding and strong relationships with many local specialists and with the major health systems in the Twin Cities who generously care for patients with more complex health care needs.

Q. Can you provide a snapshot of the current population served?
A. Presently our patient population is 98% Hispanic/Latino, with over 80% speaking Spanish as their primary language. There are nearly 1600
persons served annually and common diagnoses include pre-diabetes, diabetes, hypertension, anxiety and depression. Many patients receive their primary care through St. Mary’s so it’s common to complete annual physicals and preventive screens. Outreach services include health screens, education, flu vaccine screenings, mammograms and Zumba dancing.

Q. How is St. Mary’s funded?

A. St. Mary’s operates with support from private donations and many grants. The Ministries Foundation is a strong partner and advocate for St. Mary’s helping with fundraising initiatives and grant writing.

Q. Can I help?

A. St. Mary’s has a solid volunteer base of physicians, nurses and support personnel and welcomes new volunteers. Financial contributions are most welcome and help provide care to our neighbors and community members who are less fortunate than many, a vulnerable and marginalized group.
The Feast of St. Joseph 2020

Come see, savor and celebrate our CSJ Mission as it is lived by Sister Jubilarians with anniversaries of 80, 70, 65, 60, 50, and 45 years, Consociate Jubilarians of 10 and 20 years, and by all of us who share it!

Thursday, March 19th

Eucharistic Celebration
Carondelet Village Chapel
9:30 AM, Reception will follow

Feast Day Celebration with Table Prayer
Our Lady of the Presentation Chapel
6:00 PM, Please RSVP for reception
651-690-7060

Sisters, Consociates, Partners, Friends and Guests
All are Welcome!

2020 Sister and Consociate Jubilarians

80th ANNIVERSARY
Florine Provencher

70th ANNIVERSARY
Mary Calder
Mary Fowler
Betty McKenzie
Rose Mary Rooney
Mary Nicholas Vincelli
Betty Wurm

65th ANNIVERSARY
Mary Ellen Foster
Jacqueline Lawson
Jane McDonald
Dolore Rochon
Marie Shaun Walter

60th ANNIVERSARY
Sharon Gondek
Therese Sherlock

50th ANNIVERSARY
Barbara Whitlow

45th ANNIVERSARY
Martha Merriman
Tam Thi Tran
Althea Johns

20th CONSOCIATE ANNIVERSARY
Ginger Hedstrom
Ginny Jablonski
Carla Nitti
Gayleen Touhey

10th CONSOCIATE ANNIVERSARY
Sue Allison
Mary Burns
Mary Joe Dolan
Rosemary Hayes
Ann Meissner
Denice Peterson
Karla Rehberg
Pamela Snow