

*Albany Province*



# Carondelet East

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and CSJ Associates

November 2020

**“O Lord, who lends me life,  
lend me a heart  
replete with thankfulness.”**  
*—Shakespeare, Henry VI (2.1.1.19-20)*



by Sister Kay Ryan

Autumn is a season of changes. The trees shed their leaves and in the process reveal the beauty of the bare tree. The days become shorter and the stars seem to shine more brightly in the night sky. Some of us like to snuggle in a cozy sweater as the days become cooler. Nature teaches us that while things change, the roots become stronger.

This thought led me to reflect upon the roots and changes we will experience this November.

- On November 1 and 2, we will celebrate All Saints Day and All Souls Day. These days celebrate the named and unnamed persons who have shown us how to live. I think of my deceased family and friends who have shaped and challenged me along the way. I remember our sisters whom I knew and those in our book of anniversaries, knowing that each one has built the foundation for our mission and ministry in the world. I pray in gratitude for the communion of saints who are with me daily.
- November 3 is "Election Day." COVID-19 has changed the how and timing of balloting this year, so in many cases, the day has become weeks. When you receive this issue of *Carondelet East*, we may not know the result of the election. I trust the integrity of the ballots and the results will enable our government structure to go forward. I pray it will be one of civility, kindness and respect.
- Veterans Day is November 11. We remember the women and men who have served in the various armed services. We may have had parents, siblings, nieces and nephews who have joined their ranks. These men and women have protected our country (and other countries) in times of war, cold war and peace. I want to protect the values of our Founding Fathers. I hope our leaders will use great integrity and discernment when they choose to deploy our troops within and beyond our borders.
- Assembly will be the weekend of November 21-22. Our sisters have discerned and prayed as we bring forth the insights needed for us to make decisions how we will embrace our mission and ministry going forward.
- Thanksgiving Day is November 26. This national celebration is rooted in the Native Americans' welcome of food and shelter following a difficult sea voyage to the new land. Today, we remember and give thanks for our own blessings. As much as I would love to see the whole smile and not just the eyes, to gather with more than twenty persons, to receive a hug, I am so grateful for each person who wears a mask, keeps gatherings safe and gives virtual hugs. I pray for our ongoing

(continued on the next page)

*They will perform all the spiritual and corporal works of mercy of which woman is capable.*

—John P. Médaille, SJ

**CARONDELET EAST**  
Vol. XXXI, #3, November 2020

[www.csjalbany.org](http://www.csjalbany.org)

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*Carondelet East* is the monthly, internal newsletter of the Albany Province, Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. Its purpose is to provide a vehicle of communication for congregational/province news with a particular emphasis on the acts of congregational chapter.

We welcome signed news information relating to the congregation. Please submit articles electronically, not longer than one printed page. Such material is subject to editing and revision. The deadline is 9:00 a.m. on the first day of each month unless otherwise stated.



*Cover Design*  
by Mary Rose Noonan, CSJ  
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## Leadership Perspectives (cont'd)

safety and willingness to bless others with these protections.

Autumn does teach me about change—and how to have hope, growing in the roots of tradition and the willingness to let go for new life.

Blessings  
Kay

## Summary of Minutes Province Leadership Team September 28, 2020

### Attendance

Rose Casaleno, Margie Edic, Joan Mary Hartigan, Kay Ryan, Diane Zigo

### Guest

Jeanne Marie Gocha

### Vocation Ministry

Sister Rose Casaleno has resigned from being our Province Vocation Director because of her new ministry in province leadership as well as her full-time ministry as chaplain at Binghamton University. An invitation to consider vocation ministry will be posted in *Thursday Updates* and *Carondelet East*.

### Ways to Connect with One Another throughout the Province

The PLT will be planning a series of Regional Meetings during Advent. We will also include information on the role of contact person in *CE* in the future.

### Housing and Moving

We discussed how we can provide the necessary resources for sisters when they need to move.

### Immigration and Congregational Formation Update

Jeanne Marie Gocha was our guest. Jeanne Marie reviewed the immigration process with us. In addition, Jeanne Marie provided us with background and updates about the Federation novitiate and the Congregational novitiate. We thanked her for her contribution.

### Positions

Mary Salvaterra, Province Archivist, has resigned. We will post the ministry position in *Thursday Updates*.

### Congregational Leadership Group Debrief

The team members shared their experiences of their first CLG meeting together. We thought the CLT did a wonderful job facilitating a meeting by Zoom. We will be scheduling a further meeting with Sally Harper.

### COVID-19 and the Provincial House

We are very grateful for our partnership with PACE that made available rapid testing, PPE (personal protective equipment) and medical guidance to keep our sisters and staff protected from COVID.

### Province Boards and Committees

We reviewed reports from the HomeLand Committee, Justice Committee, Life Long Development Board and Agenda Committee.

### Sponsored Ministries

*The College of Saint Rose*: Marsha White, interim president, is doing a wonderful job. She continually recognizes the CSJ legacy at the college. The PLT identified possible sisters to serve on the Board of Trustees.

The *Carondelet Hospitality Center* is closed during COVID-19.

### Provincial House Departments

We reviewed reports from the Provincial House, Technology, Unidine and Facilities. We noted how particularly pleased we were that the Memorial Services can be viewed on our Province YouTube Channel.

## Summary of Minutes Province Board of Trustees September 29, 2020

### Attendance

Rose Casaleno, Margie Edic, Joan Mary Hartigan, Kay Ryan, Diane Zigo

### Guests

Linda Birochik, CFO and Michelle Wildgrube, JD of Cioffi, Slezak and Wildgrube Law Practice

### CFO Report

The board reviewed with Linda Birochik, CFO, the reports on investments, patrimony, capital campaign and funds held. The discussion provided insights and ongoing clarification on finances.

### Healthcare Benefits Position

Tina Duffy, Healthcare Benefit Administrator, has resigned after many dedicated years serving us. The position has been posted on *Thursday Updates* and INDEED.

### Advance Directives and Power of Attorney Form

Our guest was Michelle Wildgrube, Esq. from Cioffi, Slezak and Wildgrube Lawfirm. Michelle Wildgrube provided us with information on healthcare proxies, MOLST forms (Medical Orders for Life-sustaining Treatments) and power of attorney.

### Employee Handbook

Tracy Needham, Provincial House Administrator and Human Resources Director, reviewed with us the Provincial House Employee Handbook. We approved holiday meals for Provincial House employees working on Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

### Shaker Pointe at Carondelet Member Meeting

Our guests were Kay Ryan and Lauren Van Dermark, executive directors. Lauren and Kay presented the Financial Audit to us. Shaker Pointe marketing is doing an excellent job, with Shaker Pointe at 98% occupancy and Parkland at 82%. Kay and Lauren also presented the Strategic Planning work being done at Shaker Pointe. One aspect is the work of the Culture Legacy Committee in maintaining and inspiring the heritage and mission of Shaker Pointe.

## CALENDAR: PROVINCE LEADERSHIP TEAM

### November 2020

9	LRP Subgroup Meeting	KR
10	Home/Land Committee Meeting	ME
11	Memorial Service for Sister Mary Alice O'Connor	PEC
12	LRP Meeting	PLT
16	Gurry Board	JMH, ME
17	IMCG Meeting	RC
17-18	LCWR Region 2 Meetings	PEC, RC
18	Memorial Service for Sister Mary Catherine Rich	PEC
18	Healthcare Decision Making Education Meeting	JMH
19	Shaker Pointe Executive Committee Meeting	JMH
20	The College of Saint Rose Board Meeting	DZ, ME
21-22	Virtual Province Assembly	PLT
23	Thanksgiving Prayer via Zoom	PLT
25	Memorial Service for Sister Paula Jude Egan	PEC
30	PLT Meeting	PLT

### December 2020

1	BOT Meeting	BOT
2	Vocation Meeting	RC
3	Healthcare Decision Making Education Meeting	JMH
4	Shaker Pointe Board of Directors Meeting	JMH
5	Advent Regional Meeting via Zoom (Albany)	PLT
6	Advent Regional Meeting via Zoom (Syracuse)	PLT
6	Advent Regional Meeting via Zoom (Southern Tier/Mohawk Valley)	PLT
7	The College of Saint Rose Board Meeting	ME
8	Advent Regional Meeting (Community Room in PH)	PEC, RC
9	Advent Regional Meeting (Community Room in PH)	PEC, RC
10	Healthcare Decision Making Education Meeting	JMH
12	Advent Regional Meeting via Zoom (Sisters who cannot attend other dates)	PLT
18	PLT Meeting	PLT

#### Abbreviations

BOT	=	Board of Trustees
DZ	=	Diane Zigo
JMH	=	Joan Mary Hartigan
KR	=	Kay Ryan
LRP	=	Long Range Planning Board
ME	=	Margie Edic
PEC	=	Joan Mary Hartigan, Margie Edic, and Diane Zigo
PLT	=	Province Leadership Team (Joan Mary Hartigan, Margie Edic, Diane Zigo, Rose Casaleno, and Kay Ryan)
RC	=	Rose Casaleno

**WELL DONE,  
GOOD AND FAITHFUL  
SERVANTS**

**Sister Mary Ethna Kapfer (A)**  
October 5, 2020

**Sister Alicia Marie Glasko (A)**  
October 7, 2020

**Sister Mary Alice O'Connor (A)**  
October 11, 2020

**Sister Mary Catherine Rich (A)**  
October 18, 2020

**Sister Paula Jude Egan (A)**  
October 23, 2020

**Sister Dorothy Daly (SL)**  
October 7, 2020

**Sister Geraldine Grabow (SL)**  
October 9, 2020

**Sister Jan Dalsin (SP)**  
October 11, 2020

**Sister Elaine Stephan (LA)**  
October 11, 2020

**Sister Helena Sheridan (SP)**  
October 19, 2020

**Sister Jeanne Rene Mercier (SL)**  
October 31, 2020

I know  
that my  
*Redeemer*  
LIVES





by Pat Hunt, CSJA

Continuing our series on how CSJ Associates share our spirituality and how we too are “called together for the life of the world,” associates were asked to use each of their monogram initials and choose a word or phrase starting with each one to describe how/why the word relates to our shared CSJ/CSJA charism and community.

This month’s CSJABCs belong to Albany Associate Annmarie Yellico.

**A** **ANIMATE:** Holy Spirit, imbue me with your gifts. Empower me to speak your truth that all I encounter will know their worth in God’s eyes. Animate me for service.



**L** **LOYAL:** Holy Spirit, teach me to be loyal and true to those whom I have promised to journey with on the pilgrimage.

**Y** **YEARN:** Holy Spirit, I yearn to know you better. Hold me close; warm me with the fire of your love.

### ST. AUGUSTINE’S PRESENTS SISTER PAT GEARY AWARD

by Sister Ellen Lindsley

As you may remember, each year St Augustine’s Parish in Baldwinsville presents the *Sister Pat Geary Christian Service Award* to a member of the parish who exemplifies the beliefs held by Sister Pat: Christian service to others, a call to respect the dignity of all people, and a call to participate in the social mission of the church. This year the award was supposed to be presented the weekend of March 21.



That was the weekend our churches in the Syracuse Diocese closed the doors to public worship. The presentation was put on hold.

We finally were able to present the award the weekend of October 18 at the 10:30 a.m. liturgy. The award was presented to Dick Case who is involved in the parish in many, many ministries and activities. The committee felt that Dick truly embodies the dedication and spirit of Pat.

Dick received \$1000.00 to be used for worthwhile charities of his choice. He was truly appreciative of the award and he spoke very highly of Sister Pat.

### A Life Can Be Turned around Just About Anyplace!

by Sister Kitty Hanley

The fog was just lifting that Sunday morning when I decided to walk down to the cemetery with my second cup of coffee. To my surprise, I met a young woman coming out. She seemed pleased to run into someone and we chatted.

Cindy had come, she told me, to visit Sister Joan Schermerhorn’s grave. “Today is the feast of St Francis of Assisi,” she explained, “and Sister Joan taught us that prayer, ‘Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.’ I’ve said it ever since.”

Joan had also taught Cindy math and it was, Cindy went on, a life-changer for her. “I was becoming a wild child, hating school and everyone. Then Sister Joan came along. She had strict rules. She had special classes for anyone needing help. She told me that I had ‘untapped potential’ and challenged me to work harder. All of a sudden, everything was different.”

Because her family moved before her senior year, Cindy lost track of Joan until a few years ago, when she realized that Joan’s grave was in our cemetery. “Now I try to visit every year on the feast of St. Francis, to say the prayer Sister Joan taught us, to thank her, and to remember what a miracle she worked in my life,” Cindy told me.

I forgot to ask Cindy where Joan had taught her but it doesn’t matter all that much. A life can be turned around just about anyplace.



Sister Joan Schermerhorn

## Sisters and CSJ Associates Remembered at Annual All Saints Day Service at the Provincial House

The following Sisters and CSJ Associates have died since All Saints Day 2019 and were remembered during Mass at the Provincial House on Sunday, November 1, 2020.



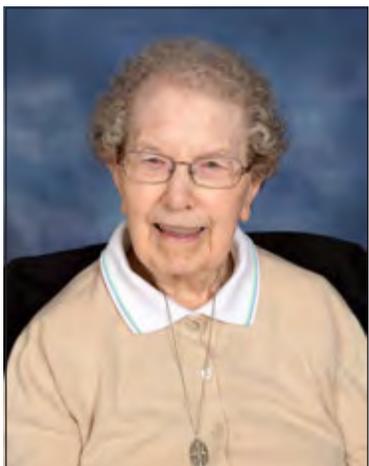
Sister Johanne McCarthy  
November 12, 2019



Antoinette (Toni) Belmont, CSJA  
November 22, 2019



Sister Anne Theresa Brown  
November 26, 2019



Sister Elizabeth Jean Allard  
November 27, 2019



Nancy Lee Sweeney, CSJA  
December 21, 2019



Sister Margaret Louise Duffy  
January 21, 2020



Sister Joan Geannelis  
February 1, 2020



Sister Mary Denise Linehan  
March 23, 2020



Sister Ellen Alicia Noonan  
April 21, 2020

**Deaths** *(continued)*



Angela Messineo, CSJA  
May 18, 2020



Sister Annette Maria Allard  
June 23, 2020



Sister Mary Damien Cushing  
July 10, 2020



Sister Mary Ethna Kapfer  
October 5, 2020



Sister Alicia Marie Glasko  
October 7, 2020



Sister Mary Alice O'Connor  
October 11, 2020



Sister Mary Catherine Rich  
October 18, 2020



Eleanor Coniglio, CSJA  
October 18, 2020



Sister Paula Jude Egan  
October 23, 2020

## From the Province Justice Committee

### WHAT'S IN A NAME LIKE FRATELLI TUTTI?

by MaryAnn Dignazio Louison, CSJA

The people of the Hebrew Scriptures and beyond thought wise sayings so important that they were saved. Books and word blocks often carry such thoughts. We often recall the wisdom people of our congregation. Spend some time with the book of Proverbs, the history of our congregation or even *Fratelli Tutti* (the third encyclical of Pope Francis) to prove this out.

If you choose the latter (and I hope you will), it may be wise to recall a wise saying: "Don't judge a book by its cover." Or turn to a quote from Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare: "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

In the case of the latest encyclical, there are some judgments that may interfere (if we let them) with our personal reading of it. So set aside any thoughts that look first at the title cover, the lack of references from women, and the perspective of this as a diversion. Perhaps, one of these initial looks at the encyclical may fit for your reading of it, but please, first make your own judgment without influence of who says what.

Spend reflection time, considering the present circumstances in the light (or perhaps, in the darkness that we might sometimes feel now) facing us individually, as a community and as a global citizen. The question comes to my mind: "What are we to do with it all as we bring this to the light of the Gospel?"

Since the Congregational Chapter wisdom of 2019, we have often been reminded: "The cry of the dear neighbor impels us to go deeper, to journey farther, to respond boldly and creatively. The world is waiting." Surely, Jean-Pierre Médaille, Mother St. John Fontbonne and her early sisters gathered in the kitchen did this.

With this encyclical, so primary is our neighbor, it would seem to return to the call from the Second Vatican Council to read the "signs of the times," that which has always been present through circumstances, and that which we certainly find facing us now.

So many ideals, hopes, and challenges are reinforced through the words of Pope Francis. We are one family of the sacred creation of earth. No more war. Underlying issues of unrest, violence and lack of trust implore us to notice and take action on the economic and social distresses as today's signs. Encounter and dialogue with one another are critical needs.

"If every human being possesses an inalienable dignity, if all people are my brothers and sisters, and the world belongs to everyone, then it matters little whether my neighbor was born in my country or elsewhere."  
(Pope Francis: *Fratelli Tutti*)

Therein lies the challenge for each (and all) of us as justice advocates. It leads us to a process that we will see in the Weekly Updates Justice notes from Sister Danielle: "Read, Reflect, Act."

As Sister Simone Campbell, SS (Nuns On The Bus) ponders: "As I read through *Fratelli Tutti*, I am struck that Pope Francis is sending a simple but jarring message to our world: We must move beyond continuous divisiveness and come together to build a world worthy of all God's children ... to remind us of Saint Francis' teachings on community and inclusivity..."

Enough said. It is now up to you to go deeper as you read *Fratelli Tutti* to reflect and to act.

As Francis of Assisi would greet those with whom he came in contact, I say also to you: "Pax et Bonum" (*Peace and Goodness*).

## PEACE RETREAT 2021 TO TAKE PLACE VIA ZOOM

*Save the date!*

The Justice Committee is pleased to announce that we are having our annual Peace Retreat by Zoom!

Saturday January 16, 2021  
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Our presenter is Sister Maryellen Kane, CSJ, a sister of St. Joseph from Brentwood, who serves as the executive director of the U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph.



Our topic for this year is extremely timely:  
*Being a Peacemaker  
in Our Chaotic World.*

Sharing her insights and experience, Mary Ellen will guide us through an afternoon listening, reflection, sharing and prayer.

More information and registration will be published in the December issue of *Carondelet East* and in Thursday Updates.

Honor Dr. Martin Luther King's prophetic vision of the BELOVED COMMUNITY and join us for our annual Peace Retreat!

## Doreen Begins Volunteering at a LifeWay Network's Safe House

by Sister Doreen Glynn

I read with interest Sabina Wong's article, *Catholic Sisters Lead the Way in the Anti-Trafficking Movement*, in the October issue of *Carondelet East*. I first became aware of the scope of the heinous crime of Human Trafficking in Persons while attending a U.S. Federation Event in St. Louis in 2011. I was deeply stirred and convinced that I was being led to be engaged in the problem. Upon arriving home from St. Louis, I searched out people and groups who were responding to this evil.

For over a year, I traveled to Yonkers to participate in monthly planning meetings of the Coalition of Religious Congregations—Stop Trafficking of Persons (CRC-STOP). These religious congregations were collaborating in educational events and advocacy as well as making plans to open safe houses for survivors. It was here that I first learned of LifeWay Network. After many trips to Yonkers, I decided it was time for me to concentrate on this issue closer to home. So, for a couple of years a group of us sisters and lay persons brought the issue to light in the Capital Region. We sponsored educational conferences, lectures, demonstrations and annual Interfaith prayer celebrations on the National Day of Awareness Against Human Trafficking in January.

I now find myself volunteering at one of LifeWay Network's Safe Houses near Manhattan. This Safe Housing Program has 16 beds designated specifically for women (18+) survivors of human trafficking. Its unique community-living model includes a 24/7 live-in host community, supported by a full-time licensed master social worker, a full-time qualified house manager, and more than 50 volunteers. In the past 12 years, LifeWay Network has had the privilege of supporting and accompanying more than 104 women from 39 countries with a continuum of services. While living in the safe house, survivors participate in weekly workshops focusing on their

personal goals related to life skills, healing, and economic empowerment. Workshops include budgeting, trauma-informed yoga, resume-building, conflict resolution, mental health workshops, and art therapy. Additionally, all women in the safe house receive supportive counseling each week from the social worker. Restorative group work, too, is an integral part of the healing journey.

As a short-term volunteer, I am responsible to be in the house from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m., the time when the paid staff is not here, and on weekends. During the day I am free to do as I like. During the pandemic I have been careful not to take chances. However, with caution I've walked and walked the neighborhoods. I've gone to the Cloisters, part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art for a day of reflection, to St. Patrick's Cathedral in NYC for Liturgy, to the Bronx Zoo and to Central Park. I also go to LifeWay's office in Tarrytown and help with office work.

As Sabrina Wong says, "Catholic sisters are committed to lives of compassion and mercy, and are attuned to recognize people under duress. Women religious instinctively see the wounds of others



Staff members (left to right): Sophia, Sabrina and Megan, at LifeWay Safe House where Doreen is volunteering.

and, through acts of kindness and attentiveness, are able to awaken a sense of common humanity within survivors, who may be numb to their own reality." It was Catholic Sisters who founded LifeWay and still support it directly and indirectly. It now has its first lay director. I am delighted to again be connected with this ministry. It is an unexpected gift of the pandemic which prohibited me from doing what I had hoped to do upon leaving the Justice Office.

If anyone is interested in learning more about how to be a short-term volunteer at a LifeWay Safe House, please be in touch with me. It's a treasured experience.



Doreen (2nd from right) and Executive Director Marian (far right) with some of the women who staff LifeWay Network's office located in Tarrytown, NY

## Dwelling in Possibility

by Sister Joan Sauro

Somewhere in my closet there are pieces of the religious habit I once wore. You are looking at a piece now, although you do not recognize it. All you see are six eggs and a glass bowl. They are resting on a piece of the black habit I wore many years ago. Here the material is self-effacing, if you will, supportive, enhancing the beauty of eggs.

The black material goes wherever my camera goes. One day I slung the camera bag over my shoulder and went over to my mother's house. I thought to photograph the rooms of my childhood, for remembrance. I greeted my mother with a kiss, and then, as usual, I opened her refrigerator to see what she had good.

And there they sat — six white eggs in a glass bowl. That was the end of the childhood rooms. And the beginning of Emily Dickinson. *I dwell in possibility* she said, baking a black cake in her Amherst kitchen. She cracked 19 eggs against the bowl.

Clearly, I came from more modest means. Six eggs, not even a dozen.

I took my mother's eggs out and carefully laid them on the black habit material which I had arranged in a corner of the dining room floor. Then I placed a standing lamp nearby and asked my mother to tip the shade, directing the light onto the eggs. There, on my knees, with my mother directing the light over my shoulder, I was awestruck over the beauty of eggs, over the beauty of my mother behind me, over the warm nest of her body holding the egg from which I had come.



'Bathed in light I caught my breath. Then I remembered Gerard Manley Hopkins, the poet. He also caught his breath the day he saw God as a mother hen brooding over *her* egg, our world.

And then came another revelation. There on my knees, I saw that each moment is eternal. One by one they are offered to us. Some minutes we take hold of, some not. No matter, they all remain.

Emily Dickinson in her white dress and white apron is eternally cracking 19 eggs in a bowl. One. Then another. And another. You can hear them crack, see them slide down the side of the bowl.

And then, her cake:

*"It's all I have to bring today —  
This, and my heart beside."*

And Gerard Manley Hopkins is forever curled up in his book-lined study, pondering the egg in his hand, thinking all the while of our world, similarly curved. With one hand he holds the egg to the light. With the other he writes:

*"The Holy Ghost over the bent  
World broods with warm breast and  
with ah! bright wings."*

And the mother forever shines the light on her daughter, bent over the eggs, which forever lie three in a bowl, three in a quiet row. Underneath them, the remnant of a nun's habit.

And the mother forever shines the light on her sons. James and John are called "Sons of Thunder," but it is their mother with the fire. When Christ asks her, "What do you want?" She says, "In your kingdom,

put one of my sons on your right and one of my sons on your left."

And where does that leave her? It never enters the mother's mind.

And five houses away from where I live, a motorcade of 50 cars forever streams the three miles from downtown, past our street, to the nearby village of Solvay.

Sometimes the signs decorating the cars say, "Congratulations Graduates of 2020." Sometimes the signs say, "I can't breathe." One car after the other — "I can't breathe." And then George Floyd's heart-rending gasp: "Mama."

And the Holy One forever bends over our world and broods. Bends. Broods. Breathes. And embraces every last one of us with warm breast and bright wings.

That we may take love and fly.

*"Dwelling in Possibilities" was published in Global Sisters Report, October 21, 2020 and reprinted with permission.*

### DEB RIITANO, CSJA RECEIVES MEDVED AWARD



At the 2020 Founders' Celebration held virtually this year on October 29, the Colonie Senior Service Centers honored its 2020 Senior Spirit Award Winners. The Jan Susan Medved Senior Dining Colonie Senior Spirit Award was presented to Deb Riitano, CSJA. Deb presently serves as commissioner of Albany County Department for Aging. Congratulations, Deb!

## A Reminder of Beauty

by Sister Mary Ellen Putnam

Today was a beautiful 74-degree, sunny, cloudless day in October. A friend and I decided to walk along the Vischer Ferry Preserve trail, a well-worn dirt path alongside the Mohawk River. Fishermen trolled in small aluminum boats. People walked along keeping social distancing and wearing masks. Children with parents rode their bikes. The Mohawk River glistened diamonds nearby flowing gently eastward. A perfect fall day.

An older woman approached with two English Springer Spaniels on leashes — stunning black and white dogs obeying her commands. We stopped to pet Lily and



Henry, siblings. Then, the woman and her dog moved on down the trail.

It is now 11:45 p.m. Saturday night and I suddenly woke up out of a deep sleep thinking of those two dogs. Lily instantly came over to me to be petted and Henry offered his furry head to my friend. I bent down to pet Lily and she sniffed my fingers. We gazed deeply into each

other's eyes. "You are so beautiful, so so beautiful," I told her as I continued to pet her. The woman looked at me and said, "Look, look she is smiling."

Now I sit here in the peacefulness of night and ponder. When was the last time I told myself, "You are so beautiful, so so beautiful." Have I ever told myself these endearing words? I keep quietly repeating this phrase to myself. "You are so beautiful, so so beautiful." And I find myself smiling. Is this the God within assuring me of my awesomeness as I told Lily?

Thank you, Lily, for gifting me today with this simple opportunity to affirm myself. Try it yourself. You just might find yourself smiling also!

## FROM THE PROVINCE HOMELAND COMMITTEE

As we continue to cut down on buying plastic, CLEAN UP YOUR LANUDRY ROOM!



**PLASTIC BOTTLES/JUGS**

OR



**DETERGENT STRIPS?**

Choose TruEarth eco-friendly laundry strips! Eliminate bulky plastic laundry detergent jugs from the plastic waste stream. Some 700,000,000 of these jugs are dumped into landfills across North America every year.

TruEarth's product is a concentrated strip of laundry detergent that can be used in cold or hot water and in all types of washing machines. One strip cleans a normal load. The hypoallergenic strips are packaged in plastic-free compostable cardboard. Packages' light weight (<3 g/strip) saves muscle strain for shoppers and lessens transportation's costs and pollution. A 32-load sample size costs \$19.95, or 62 cents per load. Several scents and year-supply purchases (\$109) are available at <https://www.tru.earth/>. Amazon and Walmart carry the 32-load size for \$17. It would be a fine Christmas gift too!

--submitted by Sister Mary Lou Dolan

## World War III

by Sister Fran Dempsey

In a cartoon, two characters stand beside a sculpture of a dark brown boat crowded with indistinct human figures. The first character says,

“Everyone just wants to get back to normal.”

The second points to the sculpture: “Not these people.”

“Who are they?”

“This sculpture represents the millions of refugees and immigrants displaced by war, climate change and indifference.”

“What normal do they hope for?”

“How about the right to life?”

Back to reality. Have you noticed that asylum for refugees and migrants and immigration policy have been infrequent topics in the 2020 presidential debates? David Anderson argues in *“European Union and US at War Against Refugees and Immigrants”* that for America’s treatment of refugees, “The E.U. could have easily put economic sanctions against the U.S. for human rights violations.” And, he adds, “The U.S. could have done the same against the E.U.”

Of course, Anderson in his title is not talking about a traditional war between two groups wearing uniforms, waving flags, holding guns. But he is right to say that Western powers, Europe and America, are allies conducting an all-out but almost unnoticed war against refugees across the Earth.

Let’s call this war against refugees *World War III*. In this war, as sometimes happens, the two sides are vastly unequal in their power. The weapons battling refugees are unbeatable while the refugees carry no weapons at all – except their courage.

Rarely does the side with the weaker weapons win a war, but in my lifetime that happened once. The Vietnamese people’s most powerful weapon was television, with its first-time ability to bring the reality of war, the Vietnam war into my living room in Albany, NY, into every American’s living room. Eventually, this weapon of media-power unintentionally strengthened American citizens’ protest power, which led the richest, most powerful nation in the world to surrender to its tiny, impoverished enemy, Vietnam.

Remember the image of the young Vietnamese girl running away from a napalm attack, naked, full of fear, crying out? That image, that weapon, did major damage to America’s ever so righteous “war against communism.” That little girl, her photo repeated again and again on tv, made viewers want to reach out and rescue her from . . . ? Oh, they realized, from their country’s brutal weaponry. “War No More,” America’s citizens said.

Today in World War III, as in the Vietnam war, two very unequal sides brandish very unequal weapons. The most powerful weapon carried by the West’s side is *media blackout*. Of course, refugees battle other weapons, like violence, climate change denial, and coronavirus exposure, but the power of media blackout is behind them all, and thus the refugees’ greatest danger today.

Because of this ongoing blackout, who knows that there are today more than 70 million refugees across the globe — 9.3 percent of the world’s population, half of whom are children? (UN Refugee Agency and Amnesty International figures) Who cares that by the year 2050 there will be 200 million climate refugees? A few scientists and academics and activists, bless them, are on the refugees’ side, but millions don’t know about refugees, or worse, don’t care.

Unseen and unheard, hundreds of thousands walk barren roads, squat in overcrowded, impermanent hovels, forever

losing their battle for simple safety and security. They run from violence around the globe, from South Sudan or Syria or Venezuela or wherever; they run from climate disaster in the poorest countries around the globe.

Check out your favorite 30-minute televised “news of the world” on any station. Do you see the detention camps, shelters, caravans, riders atop freight trains, walkers in blazing heat and brutal cold, whole families on broken vessels crossing dangerous waters, individuals of all ages, all ethnicities, all religions, representatives of every violence-ridden, every impoverished land across the globe?

Oh, once in a great while a memorable heart-wrenching refugee picture shows up on television. A 3-year-old refugee drowned with her father in the Rio Grande a few years back. But who beyond the victims’ family remembers now those two dead refugees? Images of refugees suffering and dying are rare in a world that wages a media blackout against them.

A few brave journalists visit refugees and paint word-pictures of them. Thus, when Madeleine Joung checked out an ICE “refugee” she found refugee children sleeping on concrete floors, no access to soap, 900 inmates cramped in a space for 125, unwashed baby bottles, insufficient diapers, lights on 24 hours a day, extremely cold night temperatures, sick and

*(continued on the next page)*

start each day with a grateful heart

## WW III (continued)

well together, etc. . How many comfortable Americans spend part of their day visualizing such conditions?

Likewise, Anderson shares Marie Dutrepoint reports that the Moira (Lesvos) in Greece is a refugee camp “designed for 2500 people but that now hosts 25,000.” A place so crowded creates fear of other refugees, another weapon of the war against refugees, forged by the ugly conditions in which they must live. Dutrepoint specifically points to the “fears and risks of women going to the bathroom at night,” a word picture that one wants to forget. Please, no more, the readers say.

What could change media blackout of the lives of our brothers and sisters who are refugees?

Imagine day after day on the tv news images of one group of refugees after another fleeing homeland, community, home, family, friends, jobs. Imagine a daily portrayal of the dangers young and old refugees face on the road and on the seas as they seek refuge, safety, somewhere, anywhere. Imagine daily pictures of the inhuman ways refugees are mistreated in the camps and detention centers where they wait year after year for a welcome from someone, somewhere; wait to hear the words, “Welcome. Make your Home with Us.”

America’s 2020 pledge to the 70 million refugees across the Earth is that in 2021, 15,000 applicants will be allowed in (but only if the President signs the order). For this ongoing World War III act of cruelty Americans should be taking to the streets once again, just as they did when television displayed the cruelty of napalm in Vietnam.

But so far the cruel weapon of *media blackout* remains in America’s armor in the war against refugees, denying these brothers and sisters of ours, as the cartoon says “their right to life.”

*Fran’s article was published in the Times Union, October 26, 2020.*

## Your Relationship with Your Leadership Contact Person

by Sister Diane Zigo

Every time a new Province Leadership Team is installed, one of the first invitations to go out from them is for each member to select her Leadership Contact Person. By now, all sisters have been assigned to their personal contact person. What does this relationship mean? It really can mean whatever you would like it to mean! Here are some of our team’s reflections upon ways that we see you connecting with us.

It is our responsibility to know our sisters. You can expect sisters in leadership to touch base with you every so often, and we also encourage you to reach out to us. Here are some possible reasons why you may want to call, email, or meet with your contact person:

- Even though the “Whom Do I Call?” list is in the *Province Directory*, you may not be sure whom to contact for a specific question or concern.
- When you have a question or concern about anything that Leadership is doing or if you have a question about something that you need or would like to do.
- If you are traveling for an extended period and need to let someone know—or if during this time of COVID, you have any questions about travel or safety. (Whenever you travel at a distance or for a longer than usual period of time, your friends and Leadership should have a sense of this.)
- Please call if you have something important to share with Leadership—whether good news or something that you want us to be aware of in your life.
- Please call if you simply want to share what is in your heart and mind.

We are grateful for each of you and look forward to opportunities to grow in relationship with one another. Please be assured of our prayers as we live out our mission and charism together.

### FOUNDERS’ DAY AT ST. JOSEPH’S ACADEMY, BATON ROUGE

On October 14, Sister Chris Pologa joined in the celebration as graduates of St. Joseph’s Academy, Baton Rouge, became CSJ Associates!



Fallon Gerald and S. Chris



S. Chris with associates Fallon, Ghedy, Meg and Linda



S. Chris, Sylvia, Monique and S. Mary Anne

## A Hole in the Roof

by Sister Joan Sauro

There are three of them, my favorite men in all of the Gospels (aside from Joseph, of course). No, they are not apostles. Not disciples. Not tax collectors or a good-hearted pharisee, or even a short man shimmying up a tree to get a good view, although he comes close.

My favorite men are two husky no names, carrying their friend who is four sheets to the wind. (And don't they wish they had a sheet!)

The little house, hut, lean-to, whatever shelter typical of the time, is jammed to the rafters because Christ is inside, and a long line of needs outside the only door. That leaves the back of the house free.

Two of the men gently lay the third on the ground. Then one clasps his hands and heave ho's his friend up onto the roof. Then he gently picks up the sick friend, lifts him onto his shoulder like a sack of potatoes, and lays him flat on the roof until his friend takes hold and slides him gently to safety. Then he gives his companion a hand up. After which, the three make their slow way towards the spot on the roof where they can hear the voice of Christ down below.

Then my favorite men in all of the Gospels make a hole in the roof, how, I have no idea, large enough, noisy enough, so those in the crowded room below look up, as does Christ, because he knows what's coming. And who.



The two men grab hold of their friend's loose garments and, one on either side, lower him gently through the hole in the roof, down, slowly down, until their arms run out and they let go of their friend, plop into the lap of Jesus.

Up on the roof with the everlasting sky above them, my favorite men in all of the Gospels smile ear to ear and take a seat with a bird's eye view of the miracle happening down below, their friend in the lap of Christ.

Many of us come with armloads of misery to the Savior's door. And I among them. I stand with my two brothers next to our mother, dying in a makeshift section of a nursing home rec room. I hold onto my mother's feet in her favorite Kmart shoes, hold on for dear life, while my brothers stare out a window. They should be staring at the ceiling.

I am fully aware of the hole in the roof and I do not want to see my mother rising up out of that makeshift bed, up and through the hole in the roof even though I know that Christ is waiting for her there, which doesn't say much for my faith, now does it.

Somehow things are in reverse. I am the daughter holding her mother and Christ is up on the roof, smiling, as my mother rises, landing not in his lap, but in his arms.

And lo and behold, there is the everlasting sky above them, like always.

## Words to One Another

### From Marie Talerico, CSJA

To my dear sisters and associates: Thank you for the lovely cards, good wishes and especially for your prayers in the last couple of months. I appreciate them more than I can say. I hold you all very close to my heart. Sincerely in Christ.

*(Marie is in Abraham House in Rome under hospice care. The address is: Marie Talerico, Abraham House, 417 N Washington St, Rome, NY 13403.)*

### From Jane Domingue, CSJA and Sandy Wright, CSJA

On October 18, Sisters and Associates gathered at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Center for a safe and prayerful celebration of Community Day. There was a lively and informative discussion of the article by Bryan Massingale entitled "The assumptions of white privilege and what we can do about it." It was so good for everyone to be together!

As an action item, the group donated \$235.00 in cash and \$110.00 in gift cards to the children and families at Thea Bowman House in Utica. We are thrilled to receive these gifts to reach out to families struggling with COVID-19 and a variety of related social and economic issues.

There was a beautiful line in the Community Prayer that particularly struck us. It simply stated that "Differences among cultures and races are multicolored manifestations of Your light." At Thea Bowman House, we are blessed to see beautiful brown and black faces each day originating from every corner of the earth and whose radiant eyes remind us of the truth of that prayer.

Thank you, one and all!

## Sisters and Staff at the Provincial House Join in Friendly Halloween Decorating Contest

The Sisters at the Provincial House had some Halloween activities that provided for social distancing and fun! The staff made clever skeletal frames out of plastic pipes complete with joints that move! The sisters on each floor of the B and C Wings worked together to make a friendly witch. Sisters on each floor of the A Wing helped the staff with decorations. We have a lovely Halloween-Thanksgiving look! Enjoy the photos!



## No Lack of Creativity and Celebration during Community Day in the Midst of COVID-19

On October 17, 2020, we held our first hybrid Community Day where local communities met together or with other groups and many participated via Zoom. Participants prayed together, discussed Bryan Massingale's article, "The Assumptions of White Privilege and What We Can Do about It," as well as having initial conversations about Property Stewardship. Groups also shared a meal and made a donation to a local organization in need or to our sisters in Peru who are organizing for hunger relief. Enjoy the photos participants sent in. If you don't see your photo, the resolution may have been too minute!



*PH 2C: Sisters Gilmary Fischer, Karen Gaube, Bernice Carroll, Maureen Murphy*



*PH 2C: Sisters Maria Charles Norton, Julie Eigo, Maria Bouleris, Chris Partisano*



*On Zoom: Sisters Sally Harper, Rose Casaleno, Sisters in Windsor, Sisters Alma Jones, Kay Heffron, Anne Horrigan Florence Majewski*



*Sisters Lynn Abdelnour, Pat McNally, Betty Giarrusso*



*Sisters Anna Mae Collins, Mary Jo Tallman, and Sharon Whellahan*



*Rev. Kristi Philip, CSJA  
Sister Joy Milos*



*Sisters Mary Rose Noonan and Pat Houlihan*



*PH 4C and guests: (front, l. to r.) Sisters Judith Markert, Sumaira Sadaf, OP, Peg Keddell (back, l. to r.) Sisters Susan O'Connor, Helen Leclerc, Nancy Schmidt, Marianne Baehr and Mary Rose Fox; photographer: Iffat Peter*



*Shaker Pointe: (bottom, l. to r.) Sisters Sandra Tripp, Claudette Harris, Shirley Maloney, Phyllis Mauger, Ellen Spellman, Pat Conron; (back, l. to r.) Sisters Marcia Blair, Joan Killoran, Barbara Sefcik, Frances MacFarland, Jean Keating, Kathleen Connor; Anne Tranelli, CSJ Associate Jack Egan, Sister Rose Irene Parkhurst*



*Sister M. Clementine Lynch*



*Sisters Clementine Lynch, Kate Arseneau, Rita Duggan, Lucille Theroux, Kitty Hanley with Joan Lescinski on screen*



*Sister Doreen Glynn with Joan Lescinski on screen*



*Sisters Lucille Theroux and Kitty Hanley with Joan on screen*



*Sister Cathy Kruegler, CSJ Associates Mary Craven and Nancy Koltko, Sister Teresa Walsh*



*Sisters Catherine Sean Croghan, Sister Carol Rohloff*



*Sisters Joan Mary Hartigan, Renée Adamany, Danielle Bonetti, Mary Anne Rodgers*



*Sisters Marilyn Vassallo, Patricia Cairns, Mary Ann Fetcho*



*(bottom) Sisters Lauren Van Dermark, Jackie Power, Honora Kinney (top) Sisters Jeanne Marie Gocha, Miriam Ukeritis, Lynn Levo, Kay Ryan*



*Sisters Debbie Timmis, Ranah Phelan, Charla Whimble, Liz Cruger*



*Sisters Mary O'Brien and Susan Jasko on the Zoom screen*



*Sisters Lisa Cirillo, Lois Paciello, Mary Catherine Rayo*



*CSJ Associate Vicki Therriault, Sisters Jeanne Lippincott, Mary Ellen Schopfer*



*CSJ Associates Sandra Wright and Kathy Poupart, Sisters Rosaire Anne De Mare and Martha Larkin*



*Sisters Lin Neil, Pattie Allen, Betsy Van Deusen, Robert Rita Graham, Paul Kathryn Barno*

**Sister Mary Ethna Kapfer, CSJ**  
**1918 ~ 2020**

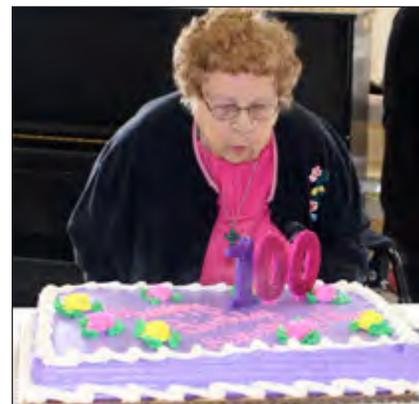
**Born in Ilion, NY, on April 11, 1918**

**Entered the Congregation on  
September 8, 1936**

**Entered the Novitiate on March 19,  
1937**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15,  
1942**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House  
on October 5, 2020**



*Sister Mary Ethna blows out the candles on the cake at the celebration of her 100th birthday in 2018.*

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Mary Ethna Kapfer, CSJ, 102, died Monday, October 5, 2020, at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 83 years.

Sister Ethna, the former Dorothy Elizabeth Kapfer, was born in Ilion, NY, on April 11, 1918, daughter of the late Carl and Jessie Smith Kapfer. After graduating from Chadwicks Union Free High School, she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in Troy, NY, on March 19, 1937 and professed final vows on August 15, 1942.

Sister Ethna received a bachelor's degree in science from The College of Saint

Rose and a master's degree in general science from Syracuse University. For 73 years she served in schools in the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses, 63 years as teacher and administrator and the last 10 years as a volunteer tutor. Fifty of those years in the field of education were spent in the Mohawk Valley: 6 years at St. Mary's School in Little Falls and 44 years at St. Francis de Sales School in Herkimer.

Sister Ethna's father died when the children were young, and she helped to raise her siblings, a responsibility that resulted in an enduring bond of love. Throughout her long life, Ethna enjoyed visiting her family in such places as

Chadwicks, Florida and Colorado. Always ready to travel, she also enjoyed trips to Alaska and the Grand Canyon, taking in foliage tours on a chair lift or cross country skiing on a frozen lake or sampling an exotic new dish.

Sister Ethna was one of those persons who was perhaps born to be an educator. Her passion, charisma and warmth combined with her willingness to work tirelessly to create a challenging and nurturing environment. Her own love of learning and engaging personality were enhanced by her strong belief that students generally give to teachers as much or as little as is expected of them! Ethna gave willingly and generously of her gifts of nature and grace, and her gratitude and zest for life will live forever in our hearts.

Sister Ethna is survived by her nieces and nephews and their families: Dr. Carleen Chartier, Kim Kapfer, Carl Kapfer, Sister Mary Bernadette Kapfer, CSSF, Tom Kapfer, Kevin Carroll and John Carroll; many friends; and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. In addition to her parents, Sister Ethna was predeceased by her sister, Marguerite (Vincent) Carroll; her brothers, Elmer (Teresa) and Vincent (Jane) Kapfer; and her nephew, Brian Carroll.

Because of the COVID pandemic, a Memorial Mass was celebrated for Sister Mary Ethna on November 28, 2020.



*Sister Mary Ethna with her long-time community at St. Francis de Sales School in Herkimer: (front) Sister Janice O'Neil; (middle) Sisters Rosalie Kelley, Mary Bartholomew Biviano, Ethna; (back) Sister Jackie Johnas*

**Sister Alicia Marie Glasko, CSJ**  
1932 ~ 2020

**Born in Cohoes, NY, on April 27, 1932**

**Entered the Congregation on September 15, 1952**

**Entered the Novitiate on March 19, 1953**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15, 1960**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House on October 7, 2020**



*Sister Alicia Marie Glasko*

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Alicia Marie Glasko, CSJ, 88, died Wednesday, October 7, 2020, at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 67 years.

Sister Alicia, the former Geraldine Ann Glasko, was born on April 27, 1932, in Cohoes, NY, daughter of the late Andrew and Alice Dooley Glasko. After graduating from Catholic Central High School in Troy, Sister Alicia entered the novitiate

of the Sisters of St. Joseph on March 19, 1953 and professed final vows on August 15, 1960.

Sister Alicia received a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in education, both from The College of Saint Rose. For 47 years, she taught in schools in the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses. When she retired from teaching, Sister Alicia served as a driver at St. Joseph's Provincial House.

Sister Alicia was a kind, considerate and generous woman, gifted with a non-judgmental, accepting and empathetic approach to people. She found great joy in the simple pleasures of life: spending time with her beloved family and friends, helping a child learn a new skill, reading the morning paper with a good cup of coffee, taking a friend for a drive in the country, navigating through a thought-provoking political discussion.

Sister Alicia mastered the philosophy of simply "enjoying life where you are with what you have." In her last few years, Sister Alicia was also blessed with the grace of accepting her final illness with patience and courage, and she faced each day with peace and trust.

Sister Alicia is survived by her beloved sister, Christine (the late Wylie) Gilchrist; her niece and nephew and their families: Roseann (Scott) Austin and Andrew (Jeanne) Gilchrist; many friends; and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. In addition to her parents, Sister Alicia was predeceased by her brother-in-law, Wylie Gilchrist.

Because of the COVID pandemic, a Memorial Mass was celebrated for Sister Alicia on November 4, 2020.



*Siuster Alicia with members of her reception at their 60th jubilee in 2013: (front row, left to right) Sisters Giovanna Marcoccia, Shelia Fahrenkopf, Ida De Castro, Alicia, Germaine Hilston, Marionella Graham, Geraldine Kennah; (back row, left to right) Sisters Marguerite Tierney, Susan O'Connor, Mary Ann McCafferty, Theresa Wysolmerski, Carolyn Schanz and Anne Gaffigan.*

**Sister Mary Alice O'Connor, CSJ**  
**(Sister Charles Leo)**  
**1930 ~ 2020**

**Born in Troy, NY, on August 1, 1930**

**Entered the Congregation on  
 September 15, 1948**

**Entered the Novitiate on March 19,  
 1949**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15,  
 1956**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House  
 on October 11, 2020**

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Mary Alice O'Connor, CSJ (Sister Charles Leo), 90, died Sunday, October 11, 2020 at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 71 years.

Sister Mary Alice was born in Troy, NY on August 1, 1930, daughter of the late Timothy and Alice Lansing O'Connor. After graduating from Catholic Central High School, she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph on March 19, 1949 and professed final vows on August 15, 1956.



*As a student in 1947, Sister Mary Alice accompanied the Glee Club at Catholic Central High School, Troy.*



*Sister Mary Alice O'Connor*

Sister Mary Alice received a bachelor's degree in music from The College of Saint Rose and a master's degree and doctorate in music, both from the Catholic University of America. For the first 18 years of her ministry, she taught music in schools of the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses and served as a music director in a parish.

After completing her doctoral studies, Mary Alice began a 33-year career at the Catholic University of America, beginning as an assistant professor and eventually serving as the director of both the degree program in liturgical music and the undergraduate program in music education. Mary Alice retired to St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham, in 2007, where she continued to use her musical gifts to bring joy to the sisters as well as to the clients in the adult daycare program.

When one of our sisters reflected on her own becoming a Sisters of St. Joseph, she recalled that Sister Mary Alice had given her one piece of advice: "Always be generous with your time, talent and presence." Mary Alice lived those words. She believed that musical talent and inspiration were not given to an individual to keep but were instead gifts to be freely shared with others, and she found great joy in embracing that concept. Whether



*Sister Mary Alice greets Bishop Hubbard after a Mass at the PH.*

Mary Alice was designing a curriculum, teaching music students, traveling with family, directing a glee club or making music with friends, she was creative, energetic, engaging and fun.

Sister Mary Alice listened reflectively, responded attentively, laughed easily and affirmed frequently. She was a woman of faith who leaves us a legacy of living with kindness, generosity and joie de vivre; she will be dearly missed.

Sister Mary Alice is survived by her cousin, John Clinton and his family, and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet with special mention of her dear friend, Sister Patricia Houlihan. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her sisters, Joan O'Connor and Nancy Keeley, and her brother-in-law, James Keeley.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, a Memorial Mass will be celebrated for Sister Mary Alice on November 11.



*Sister Patricia Houlihan and Sister Mary Alice play a duet at a Christmas party at the Provincial House.*

**Sister Mary Catherine Rich, CSJ**  
**(Sister Edmund Paul)**  
**1923 ~ 2020**

**Born in Little Falls, NY, on February 17, 1923**

**Entered the Congregation on September 15, 1944**

**Entered the Novitiate on March 19, 1945**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15, 1950**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House on October 18, 2020**



*Sister Mary Catherine Rich*

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Mary Catherine Rich, CSJ (Sister Edmund Paul), 97, died Sunday, October 18, 2020, at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham, NY. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 75 years.

Sister Mary Catherine was born in Little Falls, NY, daughter of Edmund Paul and Catherine Volk Rich. After graduating from Herkimer High School and The College of Saint Rose (Class of 1944), she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Troy, NY, on March 19, 1945 and professed final vows on August 15, 1950.

Sister Mary Catherine received a bachelor's degree in social studies and a second bachelor's degree in music, both from The College of Saint Rose, and a master's degree in music from the Catholic University of America.

Sister Mary Catherine taught music and piano for 27 years in schools in the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses. For another 30 years, she taught piano at St. Joseph's Provincial House, previous to the founding of Carondelet Music Center (CMC) and later as part of CMC. In 2003, Mary Catherine retired from music education and volunteered at the Provincial House.

St. Joseph's Provincial House, where her vast knowledge, continual updating and extensive experience facilitated the planning and coordination of the musical aspects of beautiful liturgical celebrations.

Having grown up in the Mohawk Valley of New York State, Sister Mary Catherine had a special affinity for the Algonquin-Mohawk Native Americans as well as a deep devotion to St. Kateri Tekakwitha who was born near Auriesville. Sister Mary Catherine used her musical talents to compose and publish two hymns for the canonization of St. Kateri by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012. Like St. Kateri, Mary Catherine had a deep devotion to Mary and to the Holy Eucharist and a fervent faith that she shared freely and with great joy.

Sister Mary Catherine is survived by her step-nephew, Eric (Ruth) Jahn, and his family; by many cousins and friends; and by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her step-brothers, Eugene and William Hall; and by her step-sister, Lois Oechsle.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, a Memorial Mass for Sister Mary Catherine will be celebrated on November 18.

Sister Mary Catherine was a humble, gracious woman who generously shared her gifts with her Sisters in Community, her friends and her students. She was a dedicated and patient piano teacher for nearly six decades, and she took great joy in passing on, not only a solid foundation of proper technique, but also a love and appreciation of music as an art form. In addition to her ministry in piano instruction,

Sister Mary Catherine served for many years as director of music and liturgy at



*Sister Dorothy Moore, RGS (friend of Sister Mary Catherine), Sister Mary Augustine Kieflin and Sister Mary Catherine at an Elderhostel event in 1989.*

## Sister Paula Jude Egan, CSJ 1934 ~ 2020

**Born in Syracuse, NY, on August 24, 1934**

**Entered the Congregation on September 15, 1954**

**Entered the Novitiate on March 19, 1955**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15, 1957**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House on October 23, 2020**

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Paula Jude Egan, CSJ, 86, died Friday, October 23, 2020 at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham, NY. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 65 years.

Sister Paula, the former Patricia Ann Egan, was born in August 24, 1934 in Syracuse, NY, daughter of the late Edward and Beatrice Connors Egan. After graduating from St. Brigid's Elementary School and St. Patrick's High School, Syracuse, she worked as an operator for New York Telephone Company. On March 19, 1955, Sister Paula entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in Troy, NY, and professed final vows on August 6, 1962.

Sister Paula received a bachelor's degree in social studies from The College of Saint Rose and a master's degree in theology from Marquette University. In addition, she received certification in pastoral counseling and further studies in theology at Catholic University, Fairfield University and Villanova University.

Sister Paula spent her first 15 years as a Sister of St. Joseph teaching in elementary schools in the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses. In 1972, she began a 35-year career in religious education and parish ministry in the Syracuse Diocese.



*Sister Paula Jude Egan*

Sister Paula Jude also taught in the diocesan Formation for Ministry and Diaconate Formation programs, facilitated the RENEW program, presented adult faith formation courses, facilitated Scripture study, presented workshops, reflections and retreats and served as spiritual director at the Spiritual Renewal Center in Syracuse.

On June 8, 2009, Sister Paula Jude was awarded the 10th annual Bishop Harrison Award for her outstanding dedication to catechetical ministry.



*Syracuse Bishop Robert J. Cunningham presents Sister Paula Jude with the Bishop Harrison Award for her outstanding dedication to catechetical ministry.*

In addition, Sister Paula served as a regional superior for the Albany Province of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

To Sister Paula prayer, community and ministry to God's people gave focus and direction to her life. Her greatest joy was serving "the dear neighbor" as a Sister of St. Joseph. Generosity in sharing her time and talents was second nature to Sister Paula, and saying "yes" was always her ready answer.

As a teacher, catechist, religious educator, pastoral associate, workshop presenter, religious superior and facilitator, Sister Paula was gentle, kind, competent, compassionate and thoughtful. Those blessed with her friendship knew it was a "forever" gift. Sister Paula leaves us a legacy of tenderness, goodness, and generosity of spirit, and we will miss her dearly.

Sister Paula is survived by her nephew, Edward Felicia; her cousins, especially Barbara Sherlock and John and Carolyn Connors; many friends; and her beloved Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her sister, Mary E. Felicia.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, a Memorial Mass for Sister Paula Jude will be celebrated on November 25.

## Eleanor T. Coniglio, CSJA 1938 ~ 2020

by Sister Mary Rose Noonan

CSJ Associate Eleanor T. Coniglio, 82, Rome, passed away on Sunday, October 18, 2020.

Eleanor was born in Rome on January 28, 1938, a daughter of Luigi and Theresa Gambetta Tagliaferri. She was educated at St. Mary's School and St. Aloysius Academy, both in Rome. She was a member of St. Mary's/St. Peter's Church and Altar Rosary Society. She was also a lay associate of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. Eleanor celebrated a 52-year marriage to Joseph P. Coniglio who passed away in 2010.

Eleanor retired from New York State Unified Court System in 2010 as the Chief Clerk in the Rome City Court. She was known for her dedication, attention to detail and graciousness.

Eleanor was a patron and member of many community organizations. She loved annual visits to Cape Cod with her husband, watching her grandson play hockey in Vermont, as well as many trips to New York City celebrating her granddaughters and exploring the city.

According to Sister Rosaire Anne DeMare, "Eleanor was a quiet, gracious woman and a people person in the best sense of the term. She kept in touch with many of her classmates from St. Mary's and St. Aloysius and was very active in their past school fund-raising activities. At St. Mary's Church, she was very active in the Altar-Rosary Society's annual Christmas bazaar.

"Eleanor loved being a CSJ Associate and was a quiet, faithful, reliable participant in the local meetings, in the annual Commitment Weekend and in other events at the Provincial House. Like St. Joseph, she was always there in the background, not only participating but also coming early



Eleanor Coniglio, CSJA

to set up and staying late to clean up. She was extremely generous with her time and was always thinking about how to help others in need.

"During these last weeks of her life, Eleanor was very weak and could hardly talk, but I would call and we would try to pray together. She appreciated short visits from her sister, Judy Panara (also an associate) and me. She wanted so much to get better but knew God was calling her.

"We will miss Eleanor and her wonderful spirit. She was, indeed, a woman who lived her life for others."

Eleanor is survived by her daughters, Tracy O'Shaughnessy, and Debra Mond; her cherished grandchildren, Olivia O'Shaughnessy, Remi O'Shaughnessy and their father, Mark O'Shaughnessy; Frank and Ana Mond and their father, Dominick Mond; sister and brother-in-law, Judith T. and Otto J. Panara; nephew and Godson Christopher Brady; Godson Dylan Gannon; nephew Anthony Coniglio, and niece Josephine Faulkner.

A Mass of Christian burial for Eleanor's family and friends was celebrated on Thursday, October 22, at St. Mary's/St. Peter's Church, Rome. Interment was in St. John's Cemetery.

## Happy Halloween at Shaker Pointe

On Halloween, Shaker Pointe had a party and some sisters and an associate were spotted! Don't worry. We will identify these brave souls!



Birdwoman Pat Conron



Hockey Star Mary Anne Rodgers



Garbage Bag Witch Jack Egan, CSJA

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## THANKSGIVING PRAYER GATHERING FOR SISTERS AND ASSOCIATES

On **Monday, November 23** from **7:00 to 7:30 p.m.**, Sister Laura Bufano will facilitate a Thanksgiving Prayer Gathering by Zoom and via Channel 7 at the Provincial House. Watch for the invitation with an RSVP. For those of us who will be attending through Zoom, you will need to reply and register in order to receive the Zoom link.

## ADVENT REGIONAL MEETINGS FOR SISTERS

The Province Leadership Team invites sisters to attend Advent Regional Meetings. Please save the dates. The Communications Office will be sending an invitation with an RSVP. For those of us who will be attending through Zoom, please reply and register in order to receive the Zoom link. For sisters who are not currently living/ministering in one of the geographical regions identified below, please choose a meeting to attend.

Advent Regional Meetings  
**(via Zoom and on Channel 7 for PH sisters)**  
**Albany Sisters**  
Saturday, December 5, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Advent Regional Meetings (via Zoom)  
**Syracuse Sisters**  
Sunday, December 6, 1:00 pm to 2:00 p.m.

Advent Regional Meetings (via Zoom)  
**Southern Tier/Mohawk Valley Sisters**  
Sunday, December 6, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Advent Regional Meetings: Provincial House  
**(for A-Wing Sisters who wish to meet in person)**  
Tuesday, December 8, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Advent Regional Meetings: Provincial House  
**(for B/C Wing Sisters who wish to meet in person)**  
Wednesday, December 9, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Advent Regional Meetings (via Zoom)  
**Alternative date open to any sister who cannot make the above dates**  
Saturday, December 12, 10 to 11 a.m.



When someone you love  
becomes a  
**MEMORY,**  
that memory  
becomes a  
*Treasure*