

*Albany Province*



# Carondelet East

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and CSJ Associates

January 2021

## *New Year Blessings 2021*

"The culture of care  
calls for a common,  
supportive and inclusive  
commitment to protecting  
and promoting the dignity  
and good of all."

-Pope Francis' Message for the  
World Day of Peace, 01/01/2021



## WE WELCOME JANUARY!

by Sister Rose Casaleno

*"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)*

As we celebrate the arrival of 2021, I am sure you all are just as grateful as I am, that 2020 has come to an end and we can see a new horizon developing. It will be a restart to life where we will once again be able to have personal interactions, filled with welcomed celebrations. Although Jubilees have come and gone without jubilant celebration, we will make up for that in the new year: where together we will celebrate the new, mourn the losses, and move forward in a positive direction, where we will continue to serve the dear neighbor.

Over the course of 2020, the start of new and positive endeavors has emerged. We look forward to joining others in working toward racial justice, and addressing climate change and a political environment that seeks to unite and empower. As President-elect Biden has said, "Now it is time to turn the page, as we have done throughout our history. To unite. To heal." We know that in Christ we can be rejuvenated and begin anew.

We have wonderful things to look forward to in 2021. A COVID-19 vaccine has started to be distributed. We have voted as a community to move toward and start the process of joining with Los Angeles, St. Paul and St. Louis to become one. As a new leadership team, we are excited about the future, our upcoming gathering for celebrations, and working with each of you in developing a stronger sense of God's message not only to the Dear Neighbor but also in developing a stronger sense of the CSJ charism. It is our hope that we will join with the rest of the world to renew care of the Earth, address racism at its core and move toward a more kind and loving global world.

The New Year comes with many blessings, but we also need to remember those of our sisters whom we lost to a terrible disease. Those sisters will also live in our heart, and we will honor their contributions to us as a community as well as Sisters of St. Joseph. Like Heidi Willis has said, "We can choose to be affected by the world or we can choose to affect the world." I believe that those sisters who fought so hard this year chose to affect the world, and they did.

Old things will pass away and something new will emerge—new understandings, new relationships, renewed faith in our political systems in our scientific world, new hope in our tomorrows. Most importantly, my prayer is that our nation will have renewed faith in humankind. Imagine again beauty in the world—beautiful landscapes, people of all races happy and engaging with one another, and laws being past that will help all.

*(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, #5, January 2021

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

*Director of Communications*  
Sister Mary Rose Noonan, CSJ

*Photographer*  
Sister Mary Rose Noonan, CSJ

*Coordinator of Obituaries*  
Sister Mary Rose Noonan, CSJ

*Justice Updates*  
Sister Danielle Bonetti, CSJ  
Province Justice Coordinator

*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  
stock.adobe.com #64547396

## **Leadership Perspectives** *(cont'd)*

Hildegard of Bingen writes: *“Don’t let yourself forget that God’s grace rewards not only those who never slip, but also those who bend and fall. So, sing! The song of rejoicing softens hard hearts. It makes tears of godly sorrow flow from them. Singing summons the Holy Spirit. Happy praises offered in simplicity and love lead the faithful to complete harmony, without discord. Don’t stop singing.”*

We continue to live in hope during this time of year when the cold and snow will lead us to the new life of spring to come.

In closing, I would like to suggest that we keep singing in our hearts until we can gather together and sing with joy in celebration of life and each other. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to be with us as we lead with love to the needs of our dear neighbors. Happy New Year! Let us sing with joy!

## **Summary of Minutes Province Leadership Team November 30, 2020**

### **Opening Prayer**

Sister Kay Ryan led us in prayer.

### **Annual Meeting with the Associate Team: CSJ Associate Pat Pilon and Sister Marilyn Vassallo**

Pat and Marilyn met with the team for their annual conversation. They reviewed the three financial accounts, specifically for the Associates (the Countess Account, the Brick Project and the Expense Account). The 2021 Commitment Weekend will be held at its usually time, June 11-13, 2021. Sister Mary McGlone will be the speaker on the topic of CSJ history. The associates are actively looking for candidates, and they are going to reach out to broaden membership. They are hoping to work with Miriam Ukeritis and Mary Ellen Shirtz, our new vocation directors, to send new CSJAs their way. They continue to meet with area coordinators via Zoom. They are holding an

Advent Prayer via Zoom on Friday, December 18, at 7:00 p.m.

### **Assembly Debrief**

The team had a follow-up conversation on the Province Assembly and affirmed what an excellent job Renée Adamany and Debbie Timmis did. Overall, we have had positive feedback.

### **Governance across the Congregation – Next Steps**

Joan Mary Hartigan will reach out to Sally Harper as to what are our next steps should be. The team recommends bringing this topic to the Congregational Leadership Group formally by adding it to the agenda of the next CLG meeting in February. The team supports engaging in ongoing conversation on how we shape our future together, and this will be pursued after the first of the year.

### **Safety Concerns**

Sisters hoping to move to assisted living at the PH will need to be enrolled in PACE and Medicaid prior to being eligible to receive services from PACE at the PH. The team discussed how to provide care for sisters who do not reside at the PH. A process will be developed for those living in non-PH local communities who may need Medicaid and Pace enrollment. A questionnaire will also be developed in regards to sisters’ health needs.

### **Quarantine Space for Sisters Who Live outside the PH**

There was a discussion about sisters not living at the PH but living with others, who may need to find a place to quarantine themselves apart from house mates, should that become necessary. The PLT is currently exploring options.

### **Proposal To Use PH Studio Apartment as Prayer Space**

A proposal was made by Clare Pelkey to use the PH Studio apartment as prayer space for the sisters. The team will revisit this request when Covid-19 is over.

## **Other Communal Celebrations and Special Days for Which We Might Use Zoom**

The team discussed what other days might be appropriate for using Zoom gatherings as a way to connect with our sisters for prayer and support. Communal celebrations and special days were suggested. February 17, Ash Wednesday, is a possible opportunity. The PLT will ask the Justice Committee if they would like to plan an Ash Wednesday prayer via Zoom.

### **Christmas**

Christmas will be different this year because of COVID. In order to simplify, the team will distribute CSJ gifts to employees/staff through the HR Office. The PLT agreed that our \$5,000.00 donation to Peru would be our Christmas donation.

### **Event Dates 2020-2024**

Dates for Jubilees, Assemblies, and Community Weekend have all been scheduled.

### **Office of Mission Integration Update**

There will be a committee to interview applicants.

### **Province Boards/Committees**

The team reviewed updates from the Agenda and Justice Committees, the Emergency Relief & Homeless Prevention Board and the Lifelong Development Board.

### **Ministry and Housing Updates**

The team reviewed updates on sisters’ retirements and housing changes.

### **Report Review**

The team reviewed reports from the Community Life Team, Facilities, Network Administrator and Unidine Dining Service. As a special note, the CLT will put a message in Thursday Updates to encourage sisters from local communities to call sisters in the PH during this time of COVID.

## Summary of Minutes Board of Trustees Meeting December 1, 2020

### Opening Prayer

Kay led the group in prayer, “The Gift of Hope” (Joyce Rupp, *Out of the Ordinary*).

### CFO Report

The report consisted of the *annual Audit Review*. Barbara Zielinski presented the audit of the Province and Provincial House to the board. Tracy Needham, director of administrative services, joined us for the PH audit. The findings were clear, and she reported that the interaction with staff was excellent. It was noted that the PACE program has had a positive impact on expenses for health care in the Provincial House.

*Investment Committee*: Two names were suggested for membership on the Investment Council. Linda Birochik will contact the two people and arrange for a Zoom meeting in January with the BOT with those interested in serving on the committee.

### Health Care

Margie Vincent was invited to the board meeting to discuss enrollment in Medicaid and PACE, and the topic of Health Care Proxies. Discussion focused on those sisters not enrolled in Medicaid or PACE, both those residing in the Provincial House and in local residences.

Linda Birochik and Catherine Interlicchio presented the new figures for this year’s health care plans for the sisters. The board reviewed and approved the renewal for next year.

### Social Justice Investment Decisions

The board discussed possibilities for working more closely with Investor Advocates for Social Justice (formerly Tri-CRI), of whom we are an affiliate, in relation to proxy voting and reviewing our province investment policies.

The board reviewed and made decisions based on concerns about corporations

that have been “flagged” as engaging in practices in conflict with the social justice values identified in our province investment policies.

### Employee Handbook

Tracy Needham, director of administrative services and human resources, presented revisions to the *Employee Handbook*. The board approved of these changes.

### Medical Alert Pendant Funding Sources

Tracy Needham and Don Bertoldi, network administrator, are reviewing options for updating or replacing sisters’ alert pendants.

### Christmas Gifts

The board determined the amounts for the Christmas gifts to employees and sisters who work for the province.

## Summary of Minutes Province Leadership Team December 18, 2020

### Present

Rose Casaleno, Margie Edic, Joan Mary Hartigan, Kay Ryan and Diane Zig

### Guest

Elizabeth Cessions, Community Life Team Director

### Community Weekend

We explored planning for the 2021 Community Weekend in relation to a presenter, committee and budget. Our way of gathering will be determined at a future date.

### Ongoing Education for PLT

We will read and discuss articles from the *LCWR Occasional Papers* at our upcoming meetings.

### Process for Chapter Future Directions

We reviewed the suggested process affirmed at the November Assembly for sharing and reflecting upon the Chapter Future Directions. The process will be presented in the January *Carondelet East*,

in *Thursday Updates*, and sent to committee and board chairs.

### Conversation on Preparation for Meeting with CLT and Peru and Agenda for February CLG Meeting

We discussed and suggested agenda items and preparatory materials for upcoming meetings.

### Meeting with Community Life Team

Sister Libby represented the CLT and provided a detailed overview of the many responsibilities of this team. We thanked and commended Libby and her staff on the tremendous work they have been doing during these many months of COVID-19.

### Federation Justice Position

We determined our province pledge for supporting the new full-time Federation Justice Coordinator (JPIC) position.

### Investment Committee

We discussed ongoing plans/procedures to add new members to the Province Investment Committee.

### Employee Handbook

We reviewed and made decisions about recommendations for revisions to our *Employee Handbook*.

### Ministry and Housing

We reviewed updates in ministerial changes and housing requests.

### Mission Advancement Position

A committee will be interviewing applicants by Zoom.

### Province Boards/Committees

We reviewed reports from the Agenda Committee, Long Range Planning Board, Vocation Committee, Mediation Board and Driver Assessment Board.

### Sponsored Ministries

We reviewed reports from The College of Saint Rose, Shaker Pointe at Carondelet and the Carondelet Hospitality Center.

## PLT Summary of Minutes

(continued)

### Provincial House Departments

We reviewed reports from PH Administrative Services, the Community Life Team, Facilities, the Network Administrator, Unidine and the Vocation Office.

**WELL DONE,  
GOOD AND FAITHFUL  
SERVANTS**

#### Sister Maria Joseph Cokely

December 5, 2020

#### Sister Lamese Farhart

December 7, 2020

#### Sister Anne Lawrence Clark

December 7, 2020

#### Sister Joan Harrington

December 13, 2020

#### Sister Helen Leclerc

December 17, 2020

#### Sister Theresa Fournier

December 18, 2020

#### Sister Germaine Hilston

December 20, 2020

#### Sister Maria Mercurio

December 20, 2020

#### Sister Gloria DeCotis

December 22, 2020

#### Sister Joan Curley

December 22, 2020

#### Margaret Piacentino, CSJA

December 28, 2020

#### Sister Arline Eveld (SL)

December 3, 2020

#### Sister Ellen Marie Ryan (LA)

December 19, 2020

#### Sister Susan Smith (SP)

December 21, 2020

## CALENDAR: PROVINCE LEADERSHIP TEAM

### January 2021

11	Agrégée Meeting	RC
12	IT Subcommittee Meeting (LRP)	JMH, RC
13	Power of Attorney Workshop	DZ, ME
14	KEB Meeting	DZ, ME
14	Shaker Pointe Executive Committee Meeting	JMH
14	LRP Subcommittee Meeting	KR
19	HomeLand Committee Meeting	ME
24	PLT Meeting	PLT
25	BOT Meeting	BOT
26	LRP Subcommittee Meeting	KR
26	Property Stewardship Group Meeting (PSG)	DZ
27	Will Workshop	JMH, ME
29	Group Meeting (PLT/CLT/Perú)	DZ, ME

### February 2021

2	LRP Subcommittee Meeting	KR
---	--------------------------	----

### 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

### Deaths (continued from the previous column))

#### Sister Juanita Mary Meyer (LA)

December 22, 2020

#### Sister Imelda D'Agostino (LA)

December 25, 2020

#### Sister Mary Constance Fitzgerald (LA)

December 28, 2020

#### Joan Ryan, mother of Patricia (Patty)

Ryan, CSJA, December 30, 2020

#### Addison (Addi) Sinclair, age 8, great-

grandniece of Sister Rosemary Endres,  
December 29, 2020

**"I invite you to consider the extraordinary experiences of 2020 through the eyes of Advent, Christmas, New Year's and Epiphany as we look together towards a new beginning. As we step into 2021 there may yet be the presence of 2020 realities for months to come. While it only takes a moment to change the calendar page to 2021, we know that the transformation to which we are called will take a lifetime. Let us begin anew, together, as we look to a future filled with hope."**

**—Carol Zinn, SSJ, LCWR  
Executive Director**

## From the Province HomeLand Committee

### HOME LAND COMMITTEE TO SPONSOR ANOTHER TERRACYCLE BOX AT THE PH

by Sister Clare Pelkey

Over the past year, the HomeLand Committee has initiated a recycling effort for used writing pens that ordinarily would have been thrown in the trash. Through an environmental website whose name is TerraCycle.com, we have filled 2 of their boxes with disposable pens that will ultimately be re-purposed as another product altogether.

The idea of creating a way to turn waste into environmentally friendly products, originated with a young woman who became ‘the girl with the jar’ when she ‘made history’ by fitting 8 years of all the waste she had created in one mason jar! This ultimately led to the creation of TerraCycle whose efforts have had a global impact in 21 countries, with statistics that report the results thus far: PEOPLE RECYCLING—202,831,611; WASTE RECYCLED—7,762,174,415; MONEY earned FOR CHARITY—\$44,806,327.

Some of the companies that are working with TerraCycle in the United States are:

Bic, Burt’s Bees, Colgate Oral Care, Herbal Essences, Ocean Spray Bags, Rubbermaid Food Storage, just to name a few.

In the near future (when we are once again eating in the Dining Room and as reported in recent Thursday Updates), the committee will be bringing out another TerraCycle box. This one is for empty potato chip bags, those that are available for our meals. Details will follow once all is in place for use of the TerraCycle box.

Zero Waste Box™ platform (purchase required): TerraCycle’s Zero Waste Box™ platform allows you to recycle almost any type of waste, from your coffee capsules to complex laboratory waste. Choose the waste stream you’d like to recycle; purchase your preferred box size; collect your waste; and send it to TerraCycle to be repurposed. Shipping is included. Zero Waste Boxes are available for purchase via the Zero Waste Box website and through many major retailers.



## Guidelines for Chapter Future Directions Sharing Process

by Sister Diane Zigo (PLT)

At the November Assembly, delegates affirmed a process suggested as a way for us to keep the Congregational Chapter Future Directions before us. We agreed that the Fall Forum responses on the many ways that Sisters and Associates are engaging in actions to move these directions forward need to be regularly shared and affirmed. The PLT have developed guidelines for a sharing process that can be done at CSJ/A gatherings during the coming year.

A synthesis of each month’s sharings will be published in *Carondelet East*. We invite you to consider being a member of a small pool of writers who will take turns synthesizing and writing up each month’s submissions. If you are interested in being a writer, please contact Lisa Ciamacco-Davis in the Province Leadership Office.

### Suggested Process for Chapter Future Directions During Meetings

*PLT Recommendation approved at November Assembly 2020*

Note: This process may be inserted into the meeting’s opening prayer or may be done afterwards.

Please choose a “secretary” who will record responses from the group.

1. Read slowly the Statement of Future Directions:  
Striving to be beacons of hope, we commit to:
  - 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

## Guidelines for Chapter Sharing

(continued from previous page)

- Use our collective voice to accompany others in speaking their truth

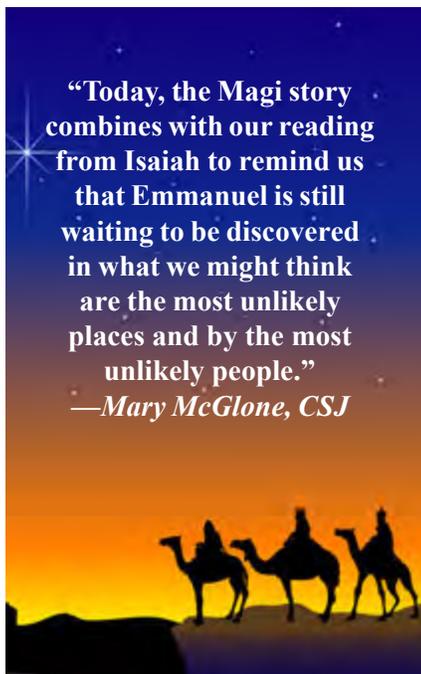
As we move into these commitments we will

- Make all decisions through the lens of unifying love
- Embrace the spirit expressed in Vatican II
- Implement *Laudato Si*
- Expand and deepen our partnerships
- Use a variety of communication media

2. Then ask participants to share on one of the following questions, or create a question of your own:

- What line or phrase is inviting you to go deeper right now?
- How do you find yourself living into these future directions?

3. Submit a brief summary of responses to Lisa Ciamacco-Davis immediately following the meeting so you do not forget.



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 it relates to our shared CSJ/CSJA charism. This month’s CSJ ABCs belong to Binghamton Associate Gloria Novobilski.

**G** **GOODNESS.** The goodness Our Lord has blessed me with.

**J** **JOY.** The joy in my life I have been blessed with.

**N** **NATURE.** The beauty of each day that brings me joy and happiness. I enjoy nature and the four seasons of each year.



Gloria Novobilski

## Thoughts from the PH

by Sister Fran Gilchrist

There’s a cute story circulating around one of the local parishes, Our Lady of The Assumption. A family was gathering around the baptismal font for the baptism of the new baby. The font was a waist-high, garden-like pool of water and the six-year-old big brother was leaning over the water. He said to his father, “Daddy, where are the lobsters?” That child has been to too many restaurants!

All of you know what has been taking place here at the PH over the last few weeks. The guardian angels of several of our sisters have visited frequently, and I

trust they are gently bringing several of our sisters home. Each time a sister dies, it brings the rest of us together in a deeper way, praying for her, her family and her friends. We share stories, most of them with a tender smile. Precious pieces of our common history come to the surface and our life stories are frequently mingled in ways that surprise us.

The PACE Program offered a presentation today on mental health in general. I just finished praying a very meaningful prayer via Skype with the Delatour Community, Rita Duggan and Kate Arseneau. What a great way to reach across the world, even to Peru. A blessed 2021.



# Christmas Giving at St Joseph's Academy, Baton Rouge

by Sister Chris Pologa

The St. Joseph's Academy community helped brighten the holidays for many members of our community. Classes, clubs, teams and departments came together to serve the *dear neighbor* this Christmas season through a number of holiday outreach projects coordinated by Sister Chris Pologa.

The freshman class collected items for nursing home residents, including no-slip socks, large-print books, highlighters and edible treats. They added handmade Christmas cards to the gift bags. Gift bags were also given to our Senior CSJ Sisters. Sophomores collected for Volunteers of America's Foster Children Christmas project and St. Vincent de Paul, donating socks and new or gently used books. Sophomores also sent notes to the Sisters of St. Joseph in the retirement center on Hundred Oaks. The junior class collaborated with LSU to collect books for inmates, and seniors collected toiletries for the Bishop Ott Center.

The Student Council hosted a Cozy Clothes Drive to collect new and gently used coats, sweaters, jackets and sweatshirts for St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church in Lake Charles. Their generosity will provide warmth during the chilly Christmas season for those impacted by recent hurricanes.



The SJA Beta Club held its annual toy drive, collecting 30 bags of toys for St. Vincent de Paul and other local shelters. Members also raised \$1,000 in donations for the Sweet Dreams Shelter.

The SJA/CHS Black Box Company adopted a large family through Catholic Charities' Community Comes Together for Christmas program. The SJA cheerleaders and their families donated more than \$1,300 in gift cards to help three local families in need.



The Respect Life Club invited students to make Christmas cards for patients and frontline workers at St. Jude Hospital. The National Honor Society made Christmas stockings for residents of nursing homes.

Students in Amy Neck and Linda Weimer's family and consumer science



classes made and decorated drawstring cloth gift bags which they filled with crayons and coloring books. The bags were donated to St. Vincent de Paul. These students also made beanies for the tiny patients in the neonatal units at Our Lady of the Lake and Woman's Hospital.

The Latin Club participated in The Chapel Baton Rouge's "Out of the Box" food



drive. Club members collected more than 30 boxes of food for the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. Each box contained enough food for several meals.

During this sacred season, may we all share the joy of Christ's birth through our loving service.



# POETRY

## ONE DAY TO THE NEXT

Awake before dawn  
long before anyone else is awake  
the house is still  
my mind is not  
this morning thoughts rise  
like morning mist rising  
the mist carries me  
carries me to places I have been  
places of beauty healing and inspiration  
carries me to times when before dawn  
the sight of rising mist lifts my spirit  
comforts and inspires me  
I pause am one with the mist  
as it moves across the pond at the priory  
am one with the mist  
rising along the Mohawk as I journey home.

Awake long before dawn  
today the stillness is different  
drapes drawn I am wrapped in darkness  
I remember the mist rising  
I go there in my mind  
today I go there for strength and for courage  
allow myself to be wrapped in it  
comforted and caressed by it  
I wait awhile  
rise from the wingback chair  
and move into the day with trepidation  
let the memory of mist pond and river  
accompany me and give me strength  
I must walk the tightrope of emotion  
stretched across a deep darkness  
that defies description  
a cavernous void of loss and grief.

**Laura Bufano, CSJ**

*Prompt: Repetition and Cadence  
or Repetition for Cadence (p.61)  
Revised, December 14, 2020*



## DEATH

Who are you death?  
You have traveled with me over the  
years as I watched so many die.  
What do you look like, death?  
What words will you say when you come to me?

I ask you death, are you the face of  
God I long to see?  
Is your purpose to lead me into the  
arms of my Creator?  
Are you LOVE that I have cloaked in fear?

Death, I ask you, are you my God who embraces me,  
and welcomes me lovingly into my  
eternal home?

**Mary Ellen Putnam, CSJ**



## Meet Noriko Kuroki, Our Newest CSJ Candidate

Last month, Noriko Kuroki arrived in Los Angeles from her native Japan to continue her discernment about religious life. As a candidate, she has the opportunity to live, pray and share life with sisters and others who associate with the community. Additionally, Noriko will participate in a monthly class on Zoom with our other candidates in LA and Albany, led by various sisters in the congregation. Even in the midst of the pandemic, God continues to call women to vowed life with us.

We asked Noriko a few questions so we could get to know her better. Please keep her in prayer as she continues her journey!

*Hometown:* I was born in Tokyo in a Buddhist family with two younger sisters. We went to a Catholic elementary school in Tokyo, and only I was baptized among us.

*Tell us about your educational background.* I graduated from Gakusyuin University in Tokyo and majored in philosophy, especially Japanese Buddhism. I worked at the university and language academy as a Japanese language instructor. Most of my students were from Korea, China, Vietnam, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. I loved them very much and still keep in touch with some of them.

*What attracted you to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet?* I was attracted to the life of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet first. They seemed to be very



Noriko Kuroki

active and sensitive to the needs of the present day. And then I started to learn the charism and the history of the congregation. The more I learn, the more they attract me.

*What is your favorite movie?* My favorite movie is *Life is Beautiful*. And I watched the new movie *Just Mercy* on the airplane. It touched me a lot!

*Tell us an interesting fact about yourself.* I have lived in Sudan and Bali in Indonesia. One is a Muslim country and the other is a Hindu island. And I have met students from many countries. Each one had a different culture. I am very familiar with Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, and other religious or non-religious people. I like to go to new places to meet people and learn about different cultures.

*Life would not be as fun without what?* Adventure. It doesn't need to be the type like Indiana Jones. To meet new people, to learn new things, to eat new foods, to read new books, everything is an adventure for me.

*(article from "We Are Carondelet")*

**"Never go ahead of grace by an imprudent eagerness, but quietly await its movements and, when it comes to you, go along with it with great gentleness, humility, fidelity and courage."**

**—Maxim 84, *The Maxims of Perfection*, Jean-Pierre Medaille, SJ**

## Grace Alive in Connection, Openness and Flexibility

A few years ago, while Sister Sally Harper, CSJ, was working with a Peruvian intercongregational committee on human trafficking, a Good Shepherd sister on the committee asked if she could help one of their guests. Hanna, an Ethiopian mother living in one of their residences, spoke some English but no Spanish, and the sister wondered if Sister Sally might find someone the woman could talk with in English. That led to a relationship between Sister Anne Davis, CSJ, Hanna, and Hanna's daughter, Betty.

Little by little, Sister Anne learned that Hanna had been a refugee most of her life, fleeing Ethiopia for Kenya and eventually South Africa. Hanna married, and in 2015 was forced to flee xenophobic violence in South Africa, traveling with then 3-year-old Betty. Although she was promised passage to the U.S., the trafficker moved them by air to Brazil, by bus to Peru, and again by air to Guatemala. The trafficker abandoned mother and child at the Guatemalan airport, taking their documents with him. After some days in limbo, Hanna and Betty were remanded to Peru, their last place of embarkation. From there, they got help from the Good Shepherd Sisters.

Eventually, Hanna's husband was reunited with them in Lima, and Hanna found work in a hotel and rented a one-room apartment. They were surviving—until COVID. Hanna's husband left the country in search of work. When she couldn't pay the rent, the hotel allowed her and Betty to take up residence in a storage space. Unbeknownst to Hanna, the hotel was keeping afloat by housing people with COVID. Hanna became infected and could no longer work. By now her daughter was 8, her husband was out of touch with them, and she had nowhere to go.

At first, Sister Anne was simply a companion, someone to talk to, someone Hanna could call "friend." Knowing Hanna's plight, Anne wondered if she

## Grace in Connection

(continued from page 10)

could do more. She took the situation to her local community in Canto Chico (a neighborhood of Lima), which consists of Sisters Maria Elena, Mary Luz, and Yolanda. They decided they could do no less than take the family in.

Now Hanna and Betty are part of the sisters' local community. Although they do not share the sisters' morning prayer and conversation time, the whole group eats together and shares all that is entailed in community living. Betty helps set the table, takes responsibility for leading grace before meals, and is doing a good job of teaching her mother Spanish. The two of them are waiting for COVID restrictions to be lifted so that they can take the next step in their journey: traveling to Canada where Sisters of St. Joseph and the Diocese of Peterborough are ready to sponsor them as refugees.

As the sisters reflected on their experience, Sister Yolanda noted how God had been working for years to gather this special community. (In fact, Yoli met Hanna even before Anne did while doing an internship in psychology!) Sister Mary Luz commented that all of this could come about because they had the graces of *apertura y flexibilidad*—openness and flexibility. She said that Hanna's experience touched her deeply because she herself was a migrant who left rural, mountain life to live in the city. "I know what it's like," she said. Sister Maria Elena Cáceres then added, "We need the dear neighbor in order to grow. We need to let ourselves be evangelized by them. I thank God for having put people in our path who have done so much to help us grow as women religious."

Refugees and trafficked people are forced to be open and flexible. That is but one of the gifts Hanna and Betty have brought the sisters. Sister Anne may have summed it all up when she said, "This is an experience of living the Gospel—in union with Jesus who said, 'I call you friends.'" (article from "We Are Carondelet")

## Jeanne Marie Named Federation Assistant Novice Director

The U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph has named Sister Jeanne Marie Gocha as assistant novice director.

Sister Jeanne Marie is a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Albany. She participated in the Federation Novitiate in Framingham, MA from 2001-2002.

Jeanne Marie holds a bachelor's degree in French and secondary education from Holy Family University, a master's degree in Youth Ministry/Religious Studies from LaSalle University and a master's degree in Catholic School Administration from Boston College.

She taught in elementary and secondary education for most of her life, spending



*Sister Jeanne Marie*

11 years as an elementary school administrator.

Following her work in education, Jeanne Marie joined the Albany Province Leadership Team and completed a 7-year term in August 2020.

She has served as the novice director for the Carondelet congregation since February 2018. (Federation release)



*The Baton Rouge Associate Community had a drive-by Christmas parade to wish the Sisters of St Joseph a Merry Christmas at their Retirement Residence. Pictured are Sister Chris Pologa with Sister Carol, a resident.*

## Sister Maria Joseph Cokely, CSJ 1927 ~ 2020

**Born in Schenectady, NY, on October 5, 1927**

**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, Latham, NY, on December 5, 2020**



*Sister Maria Joseph Cokely*

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

Sister Maria Joseph Cokely, CSJ, 93, died Saturday, December 5, 2020, at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 71 years.

Sister Maria, baptized Anne Jane Cokely, was born in Schenectady, NY, on October 5, 1927, daughter of the late Leland Joseph and Amalia Lindner Cokely. After graduating from Mont Pleasant High School in Schenectady, Sister Maria attended The College of Saint Rose for two years. On March 19, 1949, she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Troy, NY, and professed final vows on August 15, 1956.

Sister Maria received a bachelor's degree in nursing from the College of Mt. St. Vincent, a master's degree in nursing education from St. Louis University and a doctorate in health organization and research, also from St. Louis University.

Sister Maria served at St. Mary's Hospital (now St. Mary's Healthcare), Amsterdam, as an instructor in nursing and clinical supervision. In the early 1960s, Pope John XXIII called for all communities of women and men religious in the United States to send members for mission service in Latin America. Having completed her doctoral studies, Sister Maria

responded to the call and went to Peru in 1964. She served as a nursing instructor and director of nursing service in Hospital Militar in Lima, as professor of nursing at Santa Maria University in Arequipa and as a staff nurse at Posta Medica del Pilar (out-patient clinic), also in Arequipa. After 15 years in Peru, Sister Maria returned to St. Joseph's Provincial House in Latham where she served as supervisor of the infirmary floor and cared for the elderly and sick sisters.

In 1982, Sister Maria began her work in the city of Troy as a minister to the elderly and homeless in St. Anthony's Parish. That experience gave her an opportunity to become acquainted with the particular needs of Troy, especially in the areas of emergency food and shelter, homeless outreach and rapid rehousing. In 1983, Sister Maria and Sister Rita Shawn McClaskey founded Joseph's House in Troy to provide emergency shelter and support services. In 1985, Sisters Maria and Rita established Bethany Hospitality Center, also in Troy, a place where homeless persons could drop in and receive a lunch meal and wellness and hygiene services, and socialize in a safe and relaxing atmosphere.

In 1995, Sister Maria co-founded the Catholic Charities Transportation Program for the Sick to meet the needs of the ill and elderly who had no means of getting to medical appointments and treatments. The same year, she received the Edward H. Pattison Citizenship Award from Rensselaer County Chamber of Commerce for her commitment to improving the lives of individuals through community involvement. In 2016, Sister Maria received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Capital District Senior Issues Forum for her many years of faith-based service. In 2017, she was awarded the Centennial Medallion from the Albany Diocese in honor of her service to Catholic Charities.

As we Sisters of St. Joseph were called to do from our start nearly 400 years ago, Sister Maria responded in all her ministries to the ever-changing needs of the world and to our call to bring unity and reconciliation to God's people. Sister Maria was impelled to reach out to advocate for those in need and she did so with passion, experience and hope. She leaves us a legacy of recognizing the crucial need for systemic change and of bringing unity to a divided world in a welcoming, loving and compassionate way; we will miss her dearly.

Sister Maria Joseph is survived by her nieces and nephews: John (Maribeth) Coughlin, Joan (Anthony) Sestito, Susan (John) Malone, and Carol (Brian) Van Vorst; their families; many friends; and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, with special mention of her beloved friend, Sister Rita Shawn McClaskey. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her sister and brother-in-law, Doris and Dr. John Coughlin.

Due to the continued health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no public visitation or funeral services for Sister Maria at this time. A Memorial Mass will be scheduled at a later date

**Sister Lamese Farhart, CSJ  
(Sister Marie de Montfort)  
1922 ~ 2020**

**Born in Gloversville, NY, on June 22,  
1922**

**Entered the Congregation on  
September 15, 1945**

**Entered the Novitiate on March 19,  
1946**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15,  
1951**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House,  
Latham, NY, on December 7, 2020**

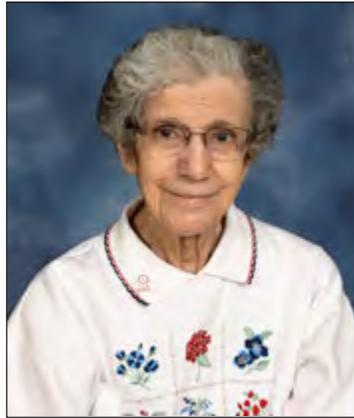
*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Lamese M. Farhart (Sister Marie de Montfort), 98, died Monday, December 7, 2020 at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 74 years.

Sister Lamese was born in Gloversville, NY, on June 22, 1922, daughter of the late Fred and Mary Farhart. After graduating from Gloversville High School, Sister Lamese attended The College of Saint Rose and graduated in 1944 with a bachelor's degree in commerce. Upon graduation from Saint Rose, Sister Lamese taught business subjects at Ravena-Coeymans Central High School.

On March 19, 1946, Sister Lamese entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Troy, NY, and professed final vows on August 15, 1951. She pursued graduate studies in business education and received a master's degree, also at The College of Saint Rose. For 21 years, Sister Lamese served as teacher and librarian in schools in the dioceses of Albany, Syracuse and Honolulu, HI. She also served as provincial secretary and leadership office assistant at St. Joseph's Provincial House.

Sister Lamese was a woman of faith and wisdom, an educator, a mentor, a friend.



*Sister Lamese Farhart*

As a family member, she was a beloved, proud and caring sister and aunt. As a teacher, she was known for her fairness, good judgement, business acumen and unshakeable composure. As a Sister of St. Joseph, she was deeply committed to the mission of unity and reconciliation and acutely aware that prayer nurtured and sustained her throughout life. Sister Lamese was a Renaissance woman of sorts with talents and knowledge in many different areas of study; she enjoyed nothing more than a conversation on the focus of the Church or the future direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph or the need to dialogue about racism, or even offering her own political voice every now and then!

To the end of her life, Sister Lamese continued to invest herself in the opportunities offered to her for personal and spiritual growth. Her enthusiastic and conscientious participation proved that losing interest and motivation is not inevitable as we grow older! Sister Lamese leaves us a legacy of faith and determination, and we will greatly miss her presence among us.

Sister Lamese is survived by her family whom she loved dearly: her nieces, Cynthia Kahn, Katherine Miller and Mary Beth Farhart; her nephews, Paul and Edward Farhart; their families; many friends; and the Sisters of St. Joseph of

Carondelet. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her sisters, Olga and Najla; and her brother and sister-in-law, Dr. Edward and Marie Farhart.

Due to the continued health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no funeral services for Sister Lamese at this time. A Memorial Mass will be scheduled at a later date.

**St. John the Evangelist Alums  
Reflect on Sister Marie de Montfort**

**A**s members of the Class of 1961 at St. John the Evangelist High School, Syracuse, heard of the death of Sister Lamese, several students commented on the impact she had made on their lives. The remarks were sent to us by Sister Sara Kirsch's sister, Marty Roberts. Says Marty, "It's so good to hear so many 'voices' of old friends with whom I share such wonderful memories."

"Sister Marie de Montfort was a great nun. I took all the business courses because of her and it paid off in my career as a purchasing agent. I saw Sister many years later at a dinner at some type of St John's Church function. She came over to me and said, 'How are you doing, Mr. Dooling?' My reply was, 'Sister, do you remember when I turned in my final exam for bookkeeping and I said to you, 'Sister, don't bother to spend a lot of time looking at this because I know I got 100.' Sister said quickly 'Yes, I do remember, Mr. Dooling, and I also remember that you got the first question wrong!' What a memory! God bless her. *Jack*"

*(continued on page 23, col. 3)*



*Sister Marie de Montfort, 1961  
(Sister Lamese Farhart)*

**Sister Anne Lawrence, Clark, CSJ**  
**1926 ~ 2020**

**Born in Syracuse, NY, on February 23, 1926**

**Entered the Congregation on September 15, 1943**

**Entered the Novitiate on March 19, 1944**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15, 1949**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham, NY, on December 7, 2020**

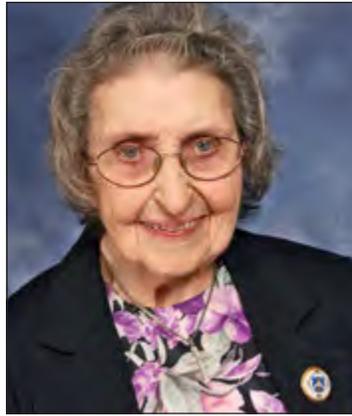
*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

Sister Anne Lawrence Clark, CSJ, 94, died Monday, December 7, 2020 at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 76 years.

Baptized Eileen Marie Clark, Sister Anne was born in Syracuse, NY, on February 23, 1926, daughter of the late Raymond and Margaret Snyder Clark. As a young child, Anne moved to Binghamton with her family where they attended St. John the Evangelist Church.

Sister Anne graduated from Binghamton Central High School, entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph on March 19, 1944 and professed final vows on August 15, 1949. She received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree, both in elementary education and both from The College of Saint Rose, and a doctorate in special education administration from Michigan State University.

For the first 20 years as a Sister of St. Joseph, Sister Anne taught in schools of the Albany and Syracuse Diocese. After completing her Ph.D., Sister Anne began a 21-year career at The College of Saint Rose where she served as instructor, director of special education, associate dean for graduate programs, dean of graduate studies and vice president of academic affairs/provost. When she



*Sister Anne Lawrence Clark*

moved to St. Joseph's Provincial House in Latham in 1997, Sister Anne served for the next 16 years as provincial archivist and then as consultant to the archives.

Sister Anne was a forthright woman who had the courage to speak the truth and the strength to stand up for what she believed, but she did so with empathy and understanding. In all her relationships and ministries, Sister Anne was prayerful, honest and direct but with a special dose of kindness for anyone in special need.

Sister Anne's work ethic, marked by vision, focus, initiative and accountability, served her well in every ministry she undertook. As a teacher, she was knowledgeable, patient and compassionate. As an administrator, she was blessed with strong organizational skills and the ability to empower others to accomplish their own responsibilities in a manner which enhanced both individual and collective growth.



*Sister Mary Lois Goldner, Maureen Murphy and Anne Lawrence reminisce on their jubilee last year. It was 75 years for Sisters Mary Lois and Anne Lawrence and 60 years for Sister Maureen.*



*Sister Anne at St. Mary's Institute, Amsterdam in 1959*

Among Sister Anne's loves were her family, the Sisters of St. Joseph and The College of Saint Rose, and all three were close to her heart, often in her conversation and always in her prayers. We will miss Sister Anne dearly, but she will always be an integral part of our cherished heritage.

Sister Anne is survived by her sister, Rita Finn-Pereira of Cupertino, CA; her brother, Jerry Clark; by many nieces and nephews and their families; and by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. In addition to her parents, Sister Anne was predeceased by her brothers, Col. Ray Clark, Dr. Robert Clark, William Clark and John Clark; and by her nephew, Robert Clark, Jr.; and by her dear friend, Sister Bernarda Jaques.

Due to the continued health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no public visitation or funeral services for Sister Anne at this time. A Memorial Mass will be scheduled at a later date

## Remembering Sister Anne Lawrence, Clark, CSJ

by R. Mark Sullivan

I first met Sister Anne in May of 1996, shortly after I was appointed president of The College of Saint Rose. I had driven up to the Provincial House from Poughkeepsie to try to convince her to become my new vice president for academic affairs. The previous vice president had resigned shortly after I was selected and thus I was about to start my tenure without the chief academic officer. This did not bode well.

Sister Anne had served as assistant vice president for academic affairs during President Vaccaro's final year in office. She was about to retire after a long and distinguished career as a faculty member and administrator at the college. Her family and friends had given her an airline ticket to travel around the world, and she was looking forward to that incredible experience. I felt very selfish about my request given all that she had done for the college and what she was looking forward to in the coming months.

I was not sure I would be successful in convincing Sister Anne to delay her retirement, yet I desperately needed her to stay on. I arrived at the Provincial House that beautiful Saturday morning armed with a dozen yellow roses, a box of chocolates and whatever Irish charm I possessed to convince her to see my way. We sat up front in the lobby and just enjoyed each other's company for a short while. Eventually, I popped the question and she demurred suggesting that we spent some time praying in the chapel together. Of course, I followed her lead up the corridor into her favorite space and we sat in solitude for what seemed to be as long as a half hour. I silently prayed to God that she would accept my proposal. I know she prayed as well, perhaps wondering how she could politely decline my offer while, at the same time, protecting my fragile ego.

To my great surprise, she eventually said yes that morning and I was ecstatic to say

the least. She was so well respected by the faculty and other administrative colleagues at the college that I knew her presence during my first year would at least ensure my survival as a new president. She was on the one hand so supportive of whatever half-baked ideas I proposed but on the other hand careful to dissuade me of ill-conceived initiatives that might jeopardize my generally favorable launch into the presidency. As a new president, I had so much to learn about the college, its culture, its personalities, its opportunities and its constraints. Sister Anne had an uncanny ability to offer advice and counsel that made sense and could stand the test of time. She was my protector as much as my confidante.

Together we set a course of stabilizing the college finances, opening constructive dialogue with the faculty leadership on a host of issues and celebrating all that was good about the college, its mission, its students, its faculty and its founders. As chief academic officer, Sister Anne presided over my inauguration and surprised me on that cool October afternoon by arranging to have my son Jay travel from Notre Dame to speak about his father and the perfect match that was about to begin between the college and me.

There are so many fond memories that I have of Sister Anne and I working together during that first year. I remember our visit to St. Louis to meet with other presidents of CSJ-sponsored institutions and spend time at the motherhouse. I remember traveling with her to the funeral of the student who had died in a fire off-campus. I remember the many meetings we had with faculty leaders, each of which went so well because of everyone's respect for Anne. I remember traveling with her to her hometown of Binghamton to visit with college alumni from that region. I remember her daily



Dr. R. Mark Sullivan

habit of stopping by my office between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. each evening, urging me to go home and spend time with Kathy. I remember how beautiful she looked in her lavender raincoat, a gift from an admiring colleague. I remember visiting her often at the Provincial House during her retirement as we sat reminiscing about our time together and her many contributions to the success of the college over the years. I remember so vividly where she sat in the chapel saying her prayers and where she dined in the cafeteria enjoying her favorite chocolate ice cream. I remember the caring loving concern she always had for her fellow sisters and their welfare. I remember her greeting Kathy and me on our visits, a big smile on her face as she wrestled her walker into submission.

At the end of the day when we reflect on those precious few who truly make us better persons because of their presence in our lives, I will always remember Sister Anne Lawrence Clark, CSJ. I know you are at peace with God in heaven, resplendent in your lavender raincoat, sharing love and wisdom with all.

December 10, 2020

*(Dr. R. Mark Sullivan, the 8th president of The College of Saint Rose, served in that role from 1996 to 2012.)*

**Sister Joan Teresa Harrington, CSJ**  
**(Sister Mary Howard)**  
**1934 ~ 2020**

**Born in Syracuse, NY, on May 10, 1934**

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

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

**Professed Final Vows on August 15,  
1962**

**Died at Samaritan Hospital, Troy, NY  
on December 13, 2020**

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Joan Teresa Harrington, CSJ (Sister Mary Howard), 86, died Sunday, December 13, 2020, at Samaritan Hospital, Troy. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 65 years.

Sister Joan was born in Syracuse, NY, on May 10, 1934, daughter of the late Howard and Mary Rauch Harrington. After graduating from St. Anthony's High School, Syracuse, she worked for New York Telephone Company for two years. On March 19, 1955, Sister Joan entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Troy, NY, and professed final vows on August 6, 1962.

Sister Joan received a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in psychology, both from The College of Saint Rose, and pursued post-graduate studies in theology from Springfield College in Mobile, AL.

For 28 years, Sister Joan served as teacher and principal in schools in the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses as well as in the Dioceses of Atlanta and Savannah, GA. In addition, she served as a pastoral minister in St. Patrick's Parish, Adamsville, AL, and as director of religious education in Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Birmingham, AL. In



*Sister Joan Harrington*

2011, Sister Joan retired to St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham, NY.

Sister Joan was the second child born into a large, loving family and, if children might be molded by their upbringing, her family life was a wonderful introduction to community living and building healthy relationships. Sister Joan was faith-filled and fun-filled, prayerful and joyful. From her early years as a champion speed skater and swimmer to her years in ministry to her retirement days, Sister Joan was a natural connector with an innate gift of bringing people together and forming life-giving bonds.

In New York State and Georgia and Ohio and Alabama, as teacher, as principal and as pastoral minister, Sister Joan brought

her high energy, her lighthearted spirit, her contagious laughter, her ability to be nearly 100% present in the moment, and her heart waiting to welcome everyone. Sister Joan enjoyed life's happy moments with gratitude and faced life's hardships with courage and grace. She lived well the special call of the Sisters of St. Joseph by being a unifier and reconciler and epitomized the words of St. Francis of Assisi: "For it is in giving that we receive and in dying that we are born to eternal life."

We will miss deeply Sister Joan's presence among us but will treasure her legacy of hospitality, generosity of spirit and remarkable zest for life.

Sister Joan is survived by her beloved family: three sisters, Susan Harrington, Eileen (Casey) Smith and Ann (the late Jim) McDonald; one brother, Charles (Mary Beth) Harrington; their families; her sister-in-law, Jean Harrington; her brothers-in-law, Tom Hartnett, Larry Woods and Tim Nau; many friends; and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet with special mention of her dear friend, Sister Ellen Spellman. In addition to her parents, Sister Joan was predeceased by two brothers, Daniel and Howard Harrington; and three sisters, Mary Lou Woods, Gail Nau, and Kathleen Hartnett.

Due to the continued health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no funeral services for Sister Joan at this time. A Memorial Mass will be scheduled at a later date.



*Sister Joan Harrington during Christmastide 2012*

**Sister Helen Leclerc, CSJ  
(Sister Helen Marie Ange)  
1942 ~ 2020**

**Born in Saint-Théophile, Quebec, on  
March 18, 1942**

**Entered the Sisters of Charity of St.  
Louis on August 26, 1959**

**Entered the Novitiate on August 15,  
1960**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15,  
1967**

**Transferred Final Vows to the Sisters  
of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1980**

**Died at St. Peter's Hospital, Albany,  
NY, on December 17, 2020**

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Helen Leclerc, CSJ, 78, died Thursday, December 17, 2020 at St. Peter's Hospital, Albany. She had been a Sister for 61 years: a Sister of Charity of St. Louis for 22 years and a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for 39 years.

Sister Helen, baptized Helen Marie Ange Leclerc, was born on March 18, 1942, in *Saint-Théophile, Lévis, Québec, daughter of the late Odilon and Germaine Boutin Leclerc. After attending parochial schools in Saint-Théophile, Sister Helen entered the Sisters of Charity of St. Louis on August 26, 1959. She received her education as a licensed practical nurse at Windham Regional Technical School in Willimantic, Connecticut; her diploma as a registered nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in Elmira, NY; and her bachelor of science degree in nursing from SUNY Polytechnic Institute in Utica, NY.*

Sister Helen began her ministry as a teacher assistant and student teacher in Redford, NY, and Plattsburgh, NY, and began her studies for nursing. She worked as a staff nurse at two hospitals in Plattsburgh. In 1981, Sister Helen



*Sister Helen Leclerc*

canonically transferred her perpetual vows to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

After her transfer of vows, Sister Helen worked as a registered nurse and nursing supervisor at St. Joseph's Provincial House in Latham, NY, served as a visiting nurse and supervising nurse/program director in Schoharie County and later as a chaplain at Glens Falls Hospital. In 2004, Sister Helen became a seamstress at St. Joseph's Provincial House where she used the skills she learned from her mother to make beautiful custom curtains and drapes for all the various size rooms at the Provincial House.

Sister Helen was a kind, gentle woman of faith whose focus was on God, her family and her community. Ever generous with her many gifts of nature and grace, she was a caring, compassionate and respectful nurse who was committed to ongoing learning and dedicated to patient advocacy.

In addition, Sister Helen was an accomplished seamstress, tailor, dressmaker and upholsterer, and she was extremely generous in sharing her talents. Whether it was altering a hemline or sewing on a button or repairing a broken zipper or literally creating a new dress design or tailoring a coat or reupholstering an

armchair, Sister Helen was a detail-oriented, knowledgeable and patient artist! Nothing pleased her more than embroidering elegant table linens or a personalized baby blanket or even an ancestry tree for gifts on special family occasions.

Like St. Joseph, our patron, Sister Helen preferred to stay in the background, humble, reliable and hard-working; and like St. Joseph whose unpretentious, steady faithfulness earned him an incomparable role in salvation history, so has Sister Helen's devoted, unassuming and generous service to God's people earned her a unique role in the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph. We will miss her dearly.

Sister Helen is survived by her beloved family, all in Canada: her brothers, Paul-Emile, Germain, Gerard, Benoit, Roger, Real and Georges; her sisters, Anita Houle, Marguerite Leclerc, Cecile Leclerc, Marie-Ange Jolin and Madeleine Laroche; many nieces and nephews and their families; and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. In addition to her parents, Sister Helen was predeceased by her brothers, Joseph, Rosaire and Eugene Leclerc; and her sisters, Therese and Gisele Leclerc.

Due to the continued health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no public funeral services for Sister Helen at this time. A Memorial Mass will be scheduled at a later date.



*Sister Helen Leclerc (left) and Sister John Loretta Sinnott in the sewing room in 2010*

## Sister Theresa Fournier, CSJ 1927 ~ 2020

**Born in Peasleeville, NY, on  
September 23, 1927**

**Entered the Sisters of Charity of St.  
Louis on February 11, 1943**

**Entered the Novitiate on August 25,  
1944**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15,  
1952**

**Transferred Final Vows to the Sisters  
of St. Joseph of Carondelet on June 12,  
1981**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House,  
Latham, NY on December 18, 2020**

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Theresa Fournier, CSJ, 93, died Friday, December 18, 2020 at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham, NY. She had been a Sister for 77 years: 46 years as a Sister of Charity of St. Louis and 31 years as a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

Sister Theresa was born on September 23, 1927, in Peasleeville, NY, daughter of the late Paul and Florence Sears Fournier. She was a member of Assumption of Mary Parish in Rexford, NY, and a graduate of Our Lady of Victory Academy in Plattsburgh. Sister Theresa entered the Sisters of Charity of St. Louis in Plattsburgh on February 11, 1943 and professed perpetual vows on August 15, 1952. On June 12, 1989, Sister Theresa canonically transferred her perpetual vows to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

Sister Theresa received a bachelor's degree in social studies from The College of Saint Rose, a master's degree in history and doctorate in history/political science, both from Middle Tennessee State University. For 21 years, Sister Theresa taught students in junior high in various schools in the Ogdensburg



*Sister Theresa Fournier*

Diocese. After completing her doctorate, Sister Theresa began teaching history on the college level at Clinton County Community College, Plattsburgh; Maria Regina College, Syracuse; and Utica College and Mohawk Valley Community College, both in Utica, NY.

Sister Theresa was a storyteller par excellence. Whether she was describing growing up in a big family in the North Country or telling tales of being a novice in religious life in the 1940s or describing an incident in her classroom, Sister Theresa could engage and interact with her listeners who would be laughing or crying or overall spellbound. With her natural gift, Sister Theresa's stories became a shared experience and, although she did most of the talking, the audience felt as though they were active participants being invited in!



*Sister Marguerite E. Donovan and Sister Theresa Fournier*

Sister Theresa's gift for storytelling was carried into her teaching of history. In the middle or high school classroom or in the college lecture hall, Sister Theresa was able to share both her knowledge of history and her passion for teaching to encourage her students to collect, understand and process information in order to see the larger story.

Sister Theresa's storytelling talents helped her students to learn, not only a list of fragmented elements of the past but also to bridge the gap between "then and now" and connect the past to the present; in other words, to make history come alive!

Sister Theresa was a lifelong learner with a passion for sharing her gifts. She leaves us a legacy of gratitude for life and generosity of spirit, and we will miss her greatly.

Sister Theresa is survived by her brother, Gilbert Fournier of Rouses Point, NY; her sister, Anna Gleason of Bellevue, NE; many nieces and nephews and their families; and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her brothers, Eugene, Lee and Arthur Fournier; and her sisters, Ethel Fournier, Doris Duffina and Gladys Brousseau.

Due to the continued health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no public funeral services for Sister Theresa at this time. A Memorial Mass will be scheduled at a later date.

**Sister Germaine Hilston, CSJ  
(Sister Grace Albert)  
1934 ~ 2020**

**Born in Albany, NY, on February 27,  
1934**

**Entered the Congregation on  
February 11, 1953**

**Entered the Novitiate on August 15,  
1953**

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

**Died at St. Peter's Hospital, Albany,  
NY, on December 20, 2020**

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Germaine Hilston, CSJ (Sister Grace Albert), 86, died Sunday, December 20, 2020, at St. Peter's Hospital, Albany, NY. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 67 years.

Sister Germaine was born in Albany, NY, on February 27, 1934, daughter of the late Albert and Grace White Hilston. After graduating from Cathedral Academy, Albany, she entered novitiate the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet on August 15, 1953, and professed final vows on August 15, 1960.

Sister Germaine received a bachelor's degree in French from The College of Saint Rose and a master's degree in theology from St. Michael's College, Winooski, VT. For 22 years, she taught elementary grades in schools of the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses. In 1977, Sister Germaine began her ministry in religious education and faith formation. She served as religious education coordinator in St. Joseph's Parish, Troy; pastoral associate at St. Francis de Sales, Troy; director of faith formation at the Columbia County Faith Formation Center in Hudson; and director of religious education for the Northern Region of the Syracuse Diocese.



*Sister Germaine Hilston*

Sister Germaine was a Sister of St. Joseph to the core of her being, and demonstrated daily her deep conviction to the congregation's call "to profound love of God and love of neighbor without distinction." Grounded in mission with a willingness to trust in God's plan, she lived a life of untiring and wholehearted commitment to her God, her congregation, her family and friends, and the people she served.

Sister Germaine was a gifted classroom teacher and religious educator, a compassionate pastoral associate and an effective administrator of faith formation on both the parish and diocesan levels. Her academic training in theology, her organizational ability, her communication and leadership skills, her ability to

collaborate effectively with other offices, and her vision and oversight of successful programs enabled Sister Germaine to be a respected minister as well as a sought-after presenter on the local and state levels.

Sister Germaine was a faithful friend who seemed to know intuitively when a person needed her presence. She was kind, warm, generous, funny and sensitive. She enjoyed nothing more than joining friends for a movie and dinner or taking a day trip to see a new place or spending that special week at camp each summer. In conversations, she was a woman of deep spirituality — interesting, full of ideas, willing to risk, and sensitive to others.

Sister Germaine leaves us a legacy of deep commitment to service and wholehearted focus on mission, and we will miss her dearly.

Sister Germaine is survived by her brother Edmund Carl Hilston of Nashua, NH; several nieces and nephews and their families; many friends; and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, with special mention of her beloved friend, Sister Phyllis Mauger. In addition to her parents, Sister Germaine was predeceased by three brothers, John, Albert David and Paul Hilston; and by two sisters, Eileen Davis and Marie Brady.

Due to the continued health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no public funeral services for Sister Germaine at this time. A Memorial Mass will be scheduled at a later date.



*Sisters Joan Harrington, Marianne Kennah and Germaine Hilston  
at Mission Day 2016 at the Provincial House*

**Sister Maria Mercurio, CSJ**  
**(Sister Maria Francis)**  
**1923 ~ 2020**

**Born in Amsterdam, NY, on December 21, 1923**

**Entered the Congregation on February 11, 1947**

**Entered the Novitiate on August 15, 1947**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15, 1952**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham, NY, on December 20, 2020**

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Maria Mercurio, CSJ (Sister Maria Francis), 96, died Sunday, December 20, 2020, at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham, NY, one day short of her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 73 years.

Sister Maria, baptized Clementine Gloria Mercurio, was born in Amsterdam, NY, on December 21, 1923, daughter of the late Frank and Jennie DeStefano Mercurio. After graduating from Wilbur H. Lynch Sr. High School, she worked as a stenographer for L.M. Fowler Insurance Company in Schenectady and Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in Amsterdam. On August 15, 1947, Sister Maria entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Troy, NY, and professed final vows on August 15, 1952.

Sister Maria received a bachelor's degree in English from The College of Saint Rose and a master's degree in religious education from LaSalle College in Philadelphia. Sister Maria began her ministry as a teacher in schools of the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses. In 1970, she began her "second career" in religious education and worked in that field until her retirement in 2010. For 40 years, she served at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, initially as a CYO staff



*Sister Maria Mercurio*

member and as a religious-education teacher for adults, and later as director of religious education for the parish.

Sister Maria was a very prayerful, community-minded and ministry-focused woman. While she enjoyed teaching, it was in the field of religious education that she found the most joy. In the parish, she lectured and taught religious education classes weekly and greeted parishioners as they came into church. Because the Cathedral is a historic landmark in New York State, the building receives many travelers each year. Sister Maria was the perfect person to greet the visitors. She was knowledgeable, hospitable, quick-witted and charming—and all this with more than a touch of class!

Sister Maria had an eclectic range of interests. She loved spending time in her

garden, a good plot of land outside the convent where she tended to her peppers and tomatoes. Those peppers and tomatoes then found their way into creative dishes, Sister Maria's delicious expression of her own love language. She also enjoyed reading a wide variety of genre from spiritual themes to historical fiction to mysteries to current events. She was also a Scrabble enthusiast who could break into a joyful dance spontaneously or recite poetry on demand!

Sister Maria loved God and lived her faith with grace and gratitude, and she loved life and lived it with passion, kindness, warmth and love. Sister Maria lived fully and with purpose, and she leaves us a legacy of embracing life's journey with a joyful, generous spirit. We will miss her dearly.

Sister Maria is survived by her sister, Jeanne Donlon; her nieces, Karen Hastings and Marie Jankowski; her nephews, Tom, Dave, Mike and Jim Hastings; several grandnephews and grandnieces; many friends; and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, with special mention of the Sisters who lived with Sister Maria for many years at the former Cathedral Convent. In addition to her parents, Sister Maria was predeceased by her sister, Marie Hastings, and her lifelong friend, Sister Rose Margaret Noonan, CSJ.

Due to the continued health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no public funeral services for Sister Maria at this time. A Memorial Mass will be scheduled at a later date.



*Sisters Bernadette Catellier, Renée Adamany and Maria Mercurio put their cards and gifts in the bags during Jubilee 2009.*

**Sister Gloria DeCotis, CSJ  
(Sister Joseph Anthony)  
1927 ~ 2020**

**Born in Troy, NY, on June 5, 1927**

**Entered the Congregation on  
September 15, 1945**

**Entered the Novitiate on March 19,  
1946**

**Professed Final Vows on August 15,  
1951**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House,  
Latham, NY, on December 22, 2020**

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Gloria DeCotis, CSJ (Sister Joseph Anthony), 93, died Tuesday, December 22, 2020, at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Latham, NY. She had been a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet for the past 74 years.

Sister Gloria was born in Troy, NY, on June 5, 1927, daughter of the late Anthony and Mary Carchia DeCotis. After graduating from Catholic Central High School, she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Troy, NY on March 19, 1946, and professed final vows on August 15, 1951.

Sister Gloria received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from The College of Saint Rose and a master's degree in home economics education from SUNY at Plattsburgh. For 23 years, she taught elementary grades and home economics and math in secondary schools in the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses. In 1971, she began serving in social ministry and neighborhood outreach ministry in Syracuse at St. John the Evangelist Parish, the Northeast Hawley Development Center, and St. Vincent de Paul Parish. In 2012, Sister Gloria retired to St. Joseph's Provincial House where she volunteered in the Carondelet Hospitality Center, greeting guests with warmth and acceptance.



*Sister Gloria DeCotis*

In 2012, when Sister Gloria had made retirement plans to move from Syracuse to St. Joseph's Provincial House, friends were holding a farewell party at the old St. Vincent's School, Certain words describing Sister Gloria were repeated over and over again: "irreplaceable," "unconditional love," "our biggest advocate," "authentic love for Christ, especially in caring for the broken and the fragile," "making sure no one is ever locked out," "strength built upon her utter humility."

Wherever Sister Gloria went, she brought her deep commitment to and passion for

the Gospel message and her call to act for the sake of justice. In the classroom, in her social ministry and in her neighborhood outreach work, Sister Gloria brought "the active and inclusive love" to which the Sisters of St. Joseph are called. At meetings, through letters to the editor, in her interactions with clients and guests, she addressed racism, violence against women, human trafficking and the need for a consistently pro-life and nonviolent culture.

Throughout her daily life, Sister Gloria was keenly grounded in the reality of God's Word. She leaves us a legacy of determination in bringing God's unifying love to a world in need, and we will miss her greatly.

Sister Gloria is survived by her sister-in-law, Shirley DeCotis; several nieces and nephews and their families; many friends; and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. In addition to her parents, Sister Gloria was predeceased by her brothers, John (her twin) and Frank DeCotis; and her sisters, Louise DeCotis, Mary DeCotis, Molly Burnside and Rose Smith.

Due to the continued health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no public funeral services for Sister Gloria at this time. A Memorial Mass will be scheduled at a later date.



*Old friends Sisters Ellen Spellman and Gloria DeCotis visit at the PH pre-COVID.*

**Sister Joan Marie Curley, CSJ  
(Sister Richarda William)  
1936 ~ 2020**

**Born in Troy, NY, on June 17, 1936**

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

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

**Professed Final Vows on August 6,  
1962**

**Died at St. Joseph's Provincial House,  
Latham, NY, on December 22, 2020**

*by Sister Mary Rose Noonan*

**S**ister Joan Marie Curley, CSJ (Sister Richarda William), 84, died Tuesday, December 22, 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 Joan was born in Troy, NY, on June 17, 1936, daughter of the late Henry and Irene Kitson Curley. After graduating from Catholic Central High School, Troy, she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph on March 19, 1955 and professed final vows on August 6, 1962.

Sister Joan received a bachelor's degree in elementary education, a master's degree in special education, and educational leadership and administration certification, all from The College of Saint Rose. In addition, she received a master's degree in pastoral leadership from St. Louis University.

For 25 years, Sister Joan served in the ministry of education in schools of the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses. She also was a teacher in the Readiness Program at the Cerebral Palsy Center in Albany (now the Center for Disability Services).

In 1983, after completing her studies at St. Louis University, Sister Joan began



*Sister Joan Marie Curley*

her ministry in pastoral leadership roles in Cartersville, GA, and Schoharie, NY. In Schoharie, she was the first woman religious in the Albany Diocese to serve as a parish life director, a position she held at St. Joseph's Parish for 25 years.

In Sister Joan's 25 years in the field of education, she served both as teacher and as principal. As teacher, she was keenly aware of engaging her students in learning about their subject material and their faith. As principal, she knew her role was to go beyond particular subject areas and lead students, teachers and staff in witnessing to their faith and reflecting the Gospel values of Jesus into their daily lives.



*Sister Joan Curley at a Mission Day celebration in 2012*

When Sister Joan began her role as a parish life director, she saw strong connections between that new ministry and her role as a teacher and school administrator. Both required excellent organizational and leadership skills, an open, friendly and welcoming attitude, a faith rooted in Gospel values and a dedication to developing and living a pastoral value and mission in a collaborative style. Sister Joan was blessed with these gifts, and she successfully provided for the overall day-to-day pastoral care and administration of St. Joseph's Parish in Schoharie for 25 years.

True to her call as a Sister of St. Joseph, Sister Joan was also a unifying presence within the entire faith community of Schoharie County. She lived her life willing to take risks for the sake of the Gospel, and her legacy will live on.

Sister Joan is survived by her brother, Richard O. Curley and his family, of South Padre Island, TX, and Huletts Landing, NY; many friends; and the Sisters of St. Joseph. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her dear friend, Sister Rose Marie Cardillo, CSJ, who died in 2004.

Due to the continued health concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no public funeral services for Sister Joan at this time. A Memorial Mass will be scheduled at a later date.

## Margaret A. Piacentino, CSJA 1924 ~ 2020

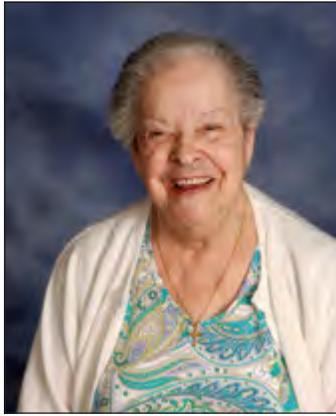
CSJ Associate Margaret A. “Mickey” (Leone) Piacentino, age 96, died on Monday, December 28, 2020.

Born in Utica on September 14, 1924, Margaret was the daughter of the late Gennaro and Jennie (Arcuri) Leone. On April 29, 1950 she wed Michael J. “Mike” Piacentino, Sr. with whom she shared 65 years in a marriage graced with compatibility and a unique closeness. Mike died on October 15, 2015.

Mickey worked at the Savage Arms Company and later at the General Electric Company, Broad Street/Radio Receiver plant. She left the workforce to raise her family and, when the children were grown, she accepted a part-time position at the iconic, busy-corner Boston Store.

Mickey’s hallmark was happiness as seen in her smile and heard in her laughter. Her sense of family and tradition began with her own parents, her numerous siblings, and the family that she and Mike built. Her relationship as a grandmother was an extension of her love for her own children. She spoiled her grandchildren and was delighted in the sincere and special relationship she retained with each of them. Mickey was a magnificent host and was happiest when her kids were together. She also had “grandpets” and sat with them on many occasions.

At one time, along with her husband, Mickey shared an affiliation with the Fort Schuyler American Legion Post #1290 as a member of its Auxiliary. She also enjoyed the excitement of Bingo and the thrill of the casino. She was a parishioner of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish where she found peace, safety and guidance. Mickey was also a longtime Associate of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. She believed firmly in her Lord and trusted fervently in God’s Word.



Margaret A. Piacentino, CSJA

Margaret is survived by her children and their spouses: Michael J. Jr. and Christine Piacentino, Marie T. and Mike Sudol, and Joanna and David Musick; grandchildren, Kathryn and Jonathan Piacentino; Erica Sudol and Jimmy, Matthew and Lindsay Sudol, and Patrick Sudol and Kristin; great-grandchildren, Roscoe, Wyatt and Troy; Mason, and Madelyn, and her anticipated sixth great-grandchild, Sophie.

Margaret’s Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish, Utica. Social distancing, registration for contact tracing, and a mask covering your nose and mouth will be required.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Mickey’s name may be directed to St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish online at <https://www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com> or by mail to 648 Jay St., Utica, NY 13501 or to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet by mail to 385 Watervliet-Shaker Rd., Latham, NY 12110. *(with family input to the Utica Observer Dispatch)*

**“A culture of care is a way to combat the culture of indifference, waste and confrontation so prevalent in our time.”**

*-Pope Francis’ Message for World Day of Peace, 01/01/2021*

## Reflections on Sister Lamese

*(continued from page 13)*

“Sister Marie was the person who eventually led me on a career path in business. What a blessing she was! *Ron*”

“Stir was one of the best! Every time I sit at my keyboard, I thank her for these skills that I still use today! Peace. *Dan*”

“I, too, had Sister Marie for typing and I have always been very grateful for the skill! She understood the importance of a practical skill like typing for everyday life. Although she may not have foreseen the proliferation of computers, it has become an essential skill for everyone. I remember her kindness and her smile. Sister’s obituary was beautiful, and I thought it was wonderful that her Sisters described her that way. Hugs to all of you. May your Christmas be filled with peace, health, and blessings. *Kathy*”

“Thank you for this sad news. I had Sister for typing and she let me use one of the electric typewriters, which I loved. I also think she was in charge of the school newspaper that I typed for. I still can remember her saying, *Fingers, Eyes, begin!* *Elaine*”

“Sister Marie was my homeroom teacher in sophomore year. We were a mischievous bunch. Who remembers Butch Manzene organizing us to whip into *Kansas City, Kanas City, here I come...* at the end of morning prayers? Her biographer got it right. She was unflappable.” *(author uncertain)*

“I met Sister at their Motherhouse in Latham a few years ago. She recalled giving John Almasi a lower-than-A in Typing which would have kept him off the High Honor Roll. The other Sisters weren’t pleased with Sister’s decision but she felt she had to do the “honest thing.” I couldn’t believe she could remember that story as well as she could after all those years and all those students!” *(author uncertain)*

## IN THIS ISSUE

- p. 2 Perspectives from the Province Leadership Team
- p. 3 PLT Meeting: Summaries of Minutes
- p. 4 BOT/PLT Meetings; Summaries of Minutes
- p. 5 Deaths; PLT Calendar
- p. 6 From the Province HomeLand Committee
- p. 6 Guidelines for Chapter Future Directions Sharing
- p. 7 From the PH; CSJ Associates ABCs
- p. 8 Christmas Giving at SJA, Baton Rouge
- p. 9 Poetry: Sisters Laura Bufano and Mary Ellen Putnam
- p. 10 Meet Noriko Kuroki, CSJ Candidate
- p. 10 Grace Alive in Connection, Openness and Flexibility
- p. 11 Jeanne Marie Named U.S. Federation Assistant Novice Director
- p. 12 Obituary: Sister Maria Joseph Cokely
- p. 13 Obituary: Sister Lamese Farhart
- p. 14 Obituary: Sister Anne Lawrence Clark
- p. 15 Dr. Sullivan's Reflection on Sister Anne L. Clark
- p. 16 Obituary: Sister Joan Teresa Harrington
- p. 17 Obituary: Sister Helen Leclerc
- p. 18 Obituary: Sister Theresa Fournier
- p. 19 Obituary: Sister Germaine Hilston
- p. 20 Obituary: Sister MariaMercurio
- p. 21 Obituary: Sister Gloria DeCotis
- p. 22 Obituary: Sister Joan Marie Curley
- p. 23 Obituary: Margaret Piacentino, CSJA
- p. 24 Index; Advertisements

## A DREAM COME TRUE!

by Sister Mary Ellen Putnam

A dream has come true! My first book, **NATURE NOURISHMENTS**, was published in December 2020! My purpose in writing this book is to bring the outside in (perfect timing with COVID restrictions). I invite the reader to stop to ponder the awesome wonders of God's creation.

If you would like to purchase a copy, please email me at [mputnam@csjalbany.org](mailto:mputnam@csjalbany.org) or call on my cell, 518-817-2549. The price of NATURE NOURISHMENTS is \$15.00 plus tax and shipping where applicable.

NATURE NOURISHMENTS will also be available for \$18.00 plus tax in: The Book House, Albany, NY; Market Block Books, Troy, NY; TBM Books.com; and Amazon.com!

## BEING A PEACEMAKER IN OUR CHAOTIC WORLD



**SISTER MARYELLEN KANE, CSJ**

January 16, 2020

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Sister Maryellen, Kane, CSJ is currently the Executive Director of the U.S. Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph. She has spent many years in leadership of her community and in parishes of the Brooklyn Diocese. In her community, she was a member of the Leadership Team of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood, NY, coordinating their Office of Mission and Ministry. In addition, she served on the Advisory Board of the NY State Labor and Religion Coalition, and on the National Advisory Board for New Ways Ministry. Early on, Sister co-founded Providence House, Inc., houses of hospitality for homeless, abused and formerly incarcerated women and their children, and lived as a core member in three of these Houses for 18 years. Sister is dedicated to the ministry of justice and peace.

### REGISTRATION ONLINE

See Thursday Update Attachment.

Like the Magi who followed the star and found the Christ, we too, might be asked to “depart to our own country by another way.” Like the Magi, once we really see the Christ, we must begin to follow other ways. We can't proceed on the ways of oppression and division. We can't think like we used to.

—Joan Chittister, OSB