

Congregation looks forward with New Leadership; New Vision

In a spirit of great joy and community, sisters, associates, and staff of the Congregation of St. Joseph gathered together in Chicago for our Chapter meeting April 17 - 22, with others joining by live-streaming from our centers and homes.

Community members elected a new leadership team who will serve a five-year term beginning in August. The newly elected team is a group of multi-talented women who are deeply committed to furthering the mission of unity in today's world. They are (from left to right) Sisters Kathy Brazda, Marie Hogan, Sue Torgersen, Helen Skormisley, and Pat Warbritton. Please join us in welcoming our new team and in gratitude for the leadership of our current team. ●



Clockwise: Sisters Nancy Conway (standing) and Tami Schab at Chapter; sisters at St. Joseph Center participate via live stream; Sister Helen Prejean during large group sharing; members vote to affirm a new visionary direction.

Life at *St. Joseph Center*

There is always something going on at St. Joseph Center! Our sisters enjoy a diverse array of mind, body and spirit offerings which provide opportunities to connect with one another and contribute to an overall vibrant living experience.

Here are a few recent snapshots of life at St. Joseph Center!



Sister Madeline Lammermeier chats with a student during a retreat held in March for Saint Joseph Academy students and their fathers or grandfathers. The event was co-sponsored by the SJA Parents Association and coincided with the Feast of St. Joseph who, in addition to being our patron, is also the patron saint of fathers and adoptive fathers. The retreat included time for prayer and reflection, team-building, and a service project of assembling lunches for Laura's Home and St. Herman's House of Hospitality, two local shelters. The retreat concluded with lunch with the sisters.



On May 30, sisters lined the Saint Joseph Academy driveway to wave and show support for graduating seniors as they processed to commencement during the Walk of the Roses. The Walk of the Roses is an annual tradition at Saint Joseph Academy that dates back to 1943. Congratulations to the graduating class of 2023!

Each month, sisters gather at the center to package fresh baked cookies to donate to St. Edward High School's Community Meal. The meal is organized and run by faculty, students, parents, and volunteers, and serves hundreds of community members and dear neighbors. At right Sister June Hansen labels the bags while Sisters Antoinette Campanella and Dorothy Turk (far right) fill bags.



Each spring, sisters plant flowers, herbs, and vegetables in the courtyard of the center. Our resident gardener, Sister Pat McHale, coordinated the activity and is seen above (in hat) with Sister Jeanne Cmolik planting raised garden boxes.



This past winter, sisters in Cleveland collected and donated several large bags full of hats, gloves, and scarves to those in need during the cold weather. From left are Sisters Judy Cole, Karen Kirby, Marie Gillich, and Ann Kilbane.



Sisters Mary Ann Sullivan, Rita Petruziello and Loretta Schulte enjoy painting activities at St. Joseph Center.

Jubilee

2023

The following sisters are celebrating Jubilee in Cleveland this year. Jubilee is the anniversary of a sister's entrance into religious life.

Congratulations to all our sisters who are celebrating from around the Congregation this year!



Sister Hope Greener, CSJ
(Sister Mary of the Angels)

75 Years



Sister Loretta Schulte, CSJ

75 Years



Sister Kathleen Kilbane, CSJ
(Sister Ann Michael)

70 Years



Sister Rita Mackert, CSJ
(Sister John Bosco)

70 Years



Sister Marie Therese
Courtad, CSJ

60 Years

In Memoriam...



Sister Mary Brinkman, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on October 5, 2022, after 52 years of religious life.



Sister Judith McGuire, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on January 3, 2023, after 66 years of religious life.



Sister Elizabeth Lavelle, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on April 7, 2023, after 58 years of religious life.



Sister Pat Finn, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on May 24, 2023, after 74 years of religious life.



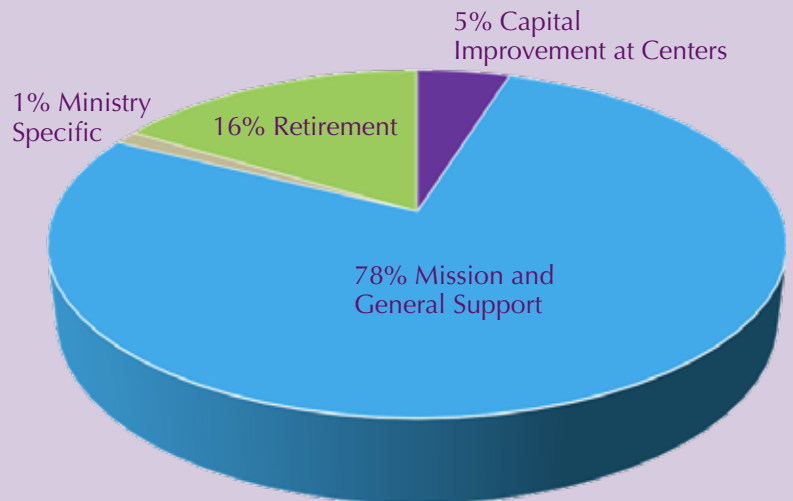
Sister Agnes Schreiber, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on May 29, 2023, after 73 years of religious life.

We Remember
We Celebrate
We Believe

Thank You!

We are so very grateful for your prayers and your financial support. Here is how we used your charitable contributions this past year:



Did You Know?

There are two unique ways to support the sisters that you may not have considered:

Make a Charitable Distribution from your IRA

You can use your required minimum distribution (RMD) to support the Congregation of St. Joseph and reduce your taxable income by making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). To do so, contact your IRA administrator and provide our EIN No: 83-0481134.

Invest in a Charitable Gift Annuity

By making a large gift now (\$10,000 or more), you can support the Congregation of St. Joseph, receive income payments for life, and receive tax advantages that include an immediate deduction for a portion of your gift, partially tax-free income payments, and no upfront capital gains tax (for appreciated securities). Returns are often at above market rates.

To Learn More, contact Melissa Haley O'Leary, Director of Development at moleary@csjoseph.org or **216-688-3474**

The Congregation of St. Joseph cannot give you financial or tax advice, so please consult with your financial advisor before making any final decisions.

Seeds of Literacy Celebrates 25 Years

In 1997, the Congregation of St. Joseph provided start-up funds to help establish Seeds of Literacy, an adult literacy and educational services organization, as a way to honor their 125 years of service to the Diocese of Cleveland. Dedicated educators, the sisters recognized adult basic education as a crucial component in helping to eradicate poverty, hunger, and homelessness, and empower people to achieve meaningful, fulfilled lives. Seeds of Literacy was unique from the start, offering one-to-one, individualized instruction and reaching Cleveland communities with the greatest need. Today, Seeds serves an average of 1,000 active students annually with the help of approximately 250 volunteer tutors, and offers year-round classes. To celebrate their 25th Anniversary, a Silver Jubilee event was held on May 19th at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Sister Kathleen Kilbane, who led Seeds during the start-up and for many years after, was recognized at the event. She is seen here at the event with Bonnie Entler, President & CEO of Seeds. To learn more, visit SeedsOfLiteracy.org.



Saint Joseph Academy

On February 25th, several sisters, associates and staff members attended Celebrate the Academy, the annual fund raiser for Saint Joseph Academy. From left to right are Sister Jacqueline Goodin, Sister Pat Kozak, who is a member of the SJA Board of Directors, Theresa Denton, Executive Director of CSJ Ministries, and Sisters Sallie Latkovich, Joyce Joecken and Phyllis DiFuccia.

Women's Outreach Center

Sister Carrie Vall held an art therapy class recently at the Women's Outreach Center at Franklin Circle Church in Cleveland. The center, which Sister Carrie co-founded, provides a safe and supportive place for homeless and formerly homeless women to come to experience community and learn life skills. She is shown here (standing) helping two of the women who come to the center paint and assemble wind chimes.



Building Oneness

Over 50 associates from Cleveland and from around the congregation and country gathered during Chapter April 17 - 22 (see cover story). They spent time with sisters in the larger group and also on their own where they visited with one another, prayed, reflected on the associate vocation, and visioned for the future of the Associate Movement.



Spring Retreat

On May 20th, associates and sisters gathered at St. Joseph Center for the annual Associate Spring Retreat. Leading the discussion this year was Kascha Sanor, Director of Social and Environmental Justice for the Congregation, who presented on four justice areas the Congregation focuses on - climate crisis & care of creation, immigration justice & reform, anti-racism, and LGBTQ+ support. After the presentation, participants attached an item of personal significance to a dream catcher to signify our interconnectedness. After the retreat, all were invited to attend Mass and have dinner at the center.



Interested in becoming an **Associate** with the Congregation of St. Joseph?
Find information at CSJoseph.com/As-An-Associate



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Spotlight Photo



Sister Felicia Petruziello says hello to a pair of chickens in the courtyard at Arden Courts of Westlake. They are on loan until October and are laying hens, so residents are looking forward to fresh eggs for breakfast!

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