

Serving the Dear Neighbor

NEWS FROM THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH

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 Geraldine Riendeau and Marie Benzing; Associate Angie Michelini and Sister Janet Fleischhacker; Sister Cathey DeSantis and Associate Annette Howard; members vote to affirm a new visionary direction; Sister Helen Prejean during large group sharing.

Jubilee

2023

The following sisters who live in Kalamazoo and other areas of Michigan are celebrating Jubilee this year. Jubilee is the anniversary of a sister's entrance into religious life.



Sister Shirley Tousignant, CSJ
(*Sister Elizabeth Marie*)

75 Years



Sister Beth Pero, CSJ
(*Sister Mary Bethany*)

60 Years



Sister Theresa Howard, CSJ
(*Sister Mary Peter*)

60 Years



Sister Rita Ann Teichman, CSJ
(*Sister Mary Gerard*)

60 Years



Sister Mary Ann McCarron, CSJ
(*Sister Mary Vera*)

60 Years



Sister Christine Parks, CSJ

50 Years

To view Jubilarian biographies,
visit CSJoseph.org/Jubilarians

YWCA Honors Sisters with Lifetime Women of Achievement Award



On May 18, 2023, the Sisters of St. Joseph were honored to receive the 2023 Lifetime Women of Achievement Award from the YWCA in Kalamazoo. The Congregation has a long-standing relationship with the YWCA and provides support through granting and service. Currently, Sisters Rita Ann Teichman, Sue McCrery, and Margot Eder volunteer weekly at the YWCA's Dreamery Child Care Center which provides around the clock quality childcare. Accepting the award on behalf of the congregation was Sister Rita Ann Teichman (left), who said, "In partnership with the YWCA whose mission is eliminating racism and empowering women, the Sisters of St. Joseph are engaged in addressing specific systemic change. By bringing together the populations served by the YWCA, like-minded organizations, elected officials, and funders, remarkable, sustainable solutions through advocacy and system change are happening." ●



Sister Janet Fleischhacker, long-time friends of the Congregation, Jack and Andy Hopkins, and Sister Betty Veenhuis, who won the award in 2007.

YWCA staff member Sandra Calderon-Huezo and Sister Pam Owens.

Sisters Kathy Brazda, Sue McCrery, Margot Eder, and Rita Ann Teichman.

Sisters Show Support at Kalamazoo Pride Festival

Sisters showed their support for our LGBTQ+ siblings at the Kalamazoo Pride Festival which took place June 2-3 at the Arcadia Creek Festival Place. Thousands attend the annual festival each June to celebrate Pride month, which commemorates the 1969 Stonewall riots in New York City, an uprising that marked the beginning of the movement to end discriminatory laws and practices against LGBTQ+ Americans. The Congregation of St. Joseph believes in and respects the God-given dignity of all life, and we act in solidarity with all those who are marginalized, including those in the LGBTQ+ community. Staffing the congregation's table were (top photo) Sisters Pam Owens, Tami Schab, Janet Fleischhacker, and Sue McCrery, and (bottom photo) Sister Mary Ellen Gondeck, seen here talking with an attendee. Not pictured are Sisters Rita Ann Teichman, Marge Bassett and Kit Kaiser who also attended and helped staff the congregation's table. ●



Life at

Nazareth Center

As Sisters of St. Joseph, we believe relationship is at the heart of who we are. This philosophy extends to our residential centers, which are vibrant places of activity that offer a warm and friendly community environment, places for gathering and quiet reflection, and activities for mind, body and spirit. There are also opportunities for service to others.

We invite you!

A limited number of apartments on our Nazareth campus have recently become available to women and men who are looking for a fully licensed, assisted living residence.

If you are interested in a unique kind of living experience and want to learn more, we invite you to consider joining us!

For more information, call 269.381.6290.



In May, long-time friends of the congregation David and Linda Stafford came to Nazareth center to visit and have lunch with the sisters. David is an alumnus of Barber Hall. They are shown top with Sisters Theresa McIntyre (in pink) and Pam Owens (far right), and below reminiscing with sisters in the dining room. Most recently, they donated a new serving line to the center which is used at each mealtime. We are grateful to all our friends and supporters and welcome your visits!

One of the ways the congregation honors its commitment to care of creation and to Laudato Si' is by investing in electric vehicles for sisters who live at centers to share. At right are Sisters Georgianna Simon (front), Grace Scola, Lois Barror, Pat Mullen, Pat Foley, and Rose Roberts. Far right, Sisters Rose Roberts and Tami Schab demonstrate how easy it is to charge the car at the center charging station.



Sisters Ginny Jones, Phyllis Tousignant, Mary Rene Poirier, Rita Schafer, and Beverly Nonte enjoy each other's company during a Mother's Day Tea in the dining room.



Sisters at the center listen to a presentation by Pauline Pippin, a member of the Nazareth Anti-Racism Team, who shared her experience belonging to a black Christian church. She is shown at right with Sister Rita Ann Teichman.

In Memoriam



Sister Geneva Kruger, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on April 21, 2023, after 63 years of religious life.



Sister Pauline Zeleznik, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on October 7, 2022, after 71 years of religious life.

Sister Marty McEntee, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on March 27, 2023, after 68 years of religious life.



Sister Damien Fitzsimmons, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on September 26, 2022, after 75 years of religious life.



Sister Janet Kurtz, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on February 4, 2023, after 62 years of religious life.



Sister Rita Agnes Costello, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on September 23, 2022, after 78 years of religious life.

Sister Catherine Shanahan, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on December 24, 2022, after 77 years of religious life.



Sister Mary Choiniere, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on September 5, 2022, after 73 years of religious life.



Sister Loretta Ann Ewing, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on December 24, 2022, after 77 years of religious life.



Sister Joan McCabe, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on August 30, 2022, after 74 years of religious life.

Sister Carol Brock, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on October 31, 2022, after 68 years of religious life.



Sister Ann Therese Foley, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on May 27, 2022, after 72 years of religious life.



Sister Judith Blake, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on October 19, 2022, after 45 years of religious life.

*We Remember
We Celebrate
We Believe*

Associate Updates



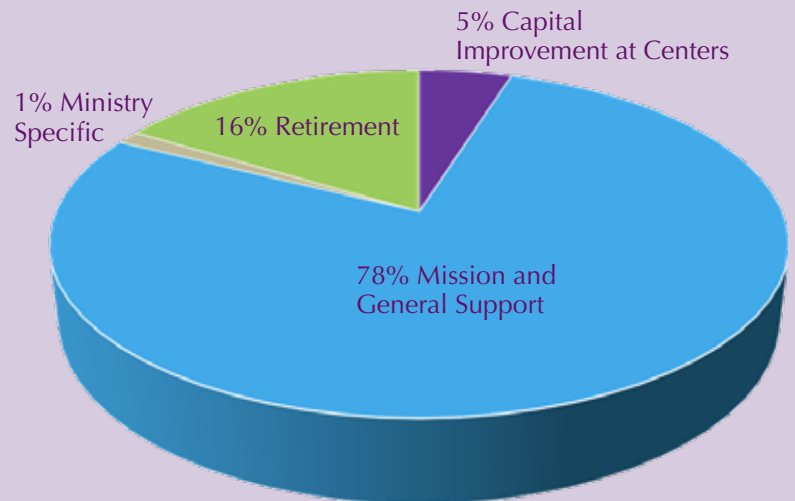
Over 50 associates from around the congregation and country gathered during Chapter April 17-22 (see cover story) in Chicago. They spent time with sisters in the larger group and also on their own where they visited with one another, prayed, reflected on the associate vocation, and visioned for the future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



Our Detroit associates hosted a St. Joseph Day celebration and get together on March 18th at Sacred Heart Church in Detroit. Several sisters, and associate inquirers also attended. Top photo: Associate Angie Micheleni and Associate Inquirers LaVette Anderson-Cooper, and Denese Moore. Bottom photo, Associates Carol Geary, Rowana Vance and Taryn Winston.

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.



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Spotlight Photo



Sisters Betty Granger, Helen Susalla, Rita Jeanne Ferrante and Mary Ann Wyllie joined members of other religious orders in the Archdiocese of Detroit for an annual celebratory dinner and prayer at St. Isidore in Macomb, MI. The dinner was in appreciation of our sisters longtime presence and service to the parish and to the Archdiocese.

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