

Ties that Bind

Sisters and Saint Joseph Academy Continue Long History of Mission-Based Engagement

Throughout our intertwined histories, the Congregation of St. Joseph's mission of unity - *one with God, one with each other, and one with all creation* - and our sisters' spiritual influence have remained ever present at Saint Joseph Academy, and serve as the foundation from which they educate and serve their students and the community.

Because of this shared mission, and because they also happen to be our next-door neighbors, the connection between the congregation and our sisters, and the SJA faculty, staff, and students, continues to thrive and reflects an ongoing commitment to engagement that enriches us all. This engagement is lived out in many ways including opportunities for service collaborations, spiritual and educational growth, support and fellowship, and sometimes just for fun!

On this page are photos that show just a few of the ways our sisters, who are always happy to support our beloved Saint Joseph Academy, have engaged with students this year.

From top, Sister Joyce Joecken and students at the annual SJA Spring Scholarship Luncheon in May. Next, students who are part of the SJA Crochet Club visited with and received guidance from Sister Judi Keehnen, an expert needleworker and crafter. Next, Sister Ann Kilbane and Brianna, a student who has been volunteering with our sisters in Cleveland this year, made Irish soda bread together in March.

Lastly, Sister Juanita Shealey with students from the SJA Gospel Ensemble and their Performing Arts teacher, Hilary Watts, who performed for the sisters during lunch in February. After the performance, Sister Juanita showed the girls her display of photos, artifacts, books and magazines, and other items from her personal collection, which she displays at St. Joseph Center every February in honor of Black History Month. ●



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!



In April, sisters, associates, and staff from across the congregation gathered for Assembly 2024. Assembly is a time for prayer and sharing, congregational visioning and planning, and for receiving updates on some of our justice work and other initiatives.



In-person gatherings took place in Cleveland and at our center in La Grange Park, with some attendees joining by Zoom. A few of those attending in Cleveland are (clockwise from top) Sisters Cathey DeSantis and Paula Terese Pilon; Sisters Marcella Clancy and Chris Schenk; and Sisters Kathy Brazda and Jacqueline Goodin.



On May 4th, sisters and friends gathered in one of the common rooms at St. Joseph Center to watch the Kentucky Derby. From left are Sisters Karen Van De Walle and Judi Keehnen, and Marge Barden, who is Sister Kathleen Kilbane's sister.



Recently, Sister Pat McHale and employee Chris Gray hosted a tea that included learning about the history of aprons. The sisters enjoyed looking through the vintage apron collection while having tea together. Sister Jan Henniger wore an apron made for her by Sister Pat to the tea. Sister Pat made the apron for her when she was living out of state, and she soon discovered that Sister Pat had put small notes with some of the Sisters of St. Joseph Maxims written on them in it for her to find, as a way to stay connected to her sisters at home. From left are Chris Gray with Sisters Jan and Pat; Sisters Mary Ann Sullivan and Ann Kilbane; and Sister Priscilla Saxton.



During Easter, sisters gathered to wear and show one another their best Easter bonnets and take these wonderful portraits. From left are Sisters Chris Mihalek, Judy Miller, and Juanita Shealey, who are just a few of the many sisters who participated!



On March 18th, Sister Carrie Vall and Marilyn Nickol gathered with members of the local Cleveland chapter of Pax Christi USA, along with other sisters, associates and partners in mission, to witness for peace and an end to hostilities in Gaza, and to pray for all who are experiencing conflict around the world.



In April, Cleveland Guardians superfan Sister Madeline Lammermeier showed her support for the team's home opener with a display of Guardians merchandise. She and other sisters, associates, and employees watched the game in the dining room at St. Joseph Center while enjoying popcorn, hot dogs, and other standard baseball fare!

IN THE COMMUNITY

Diocesan Jubilee Celebration



On April 27th, Sisters Mary Hough and Corita Ambro attended the Diocese of Cleveland Jubilee Celebration Mass, which took place at the Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickliffe. They are pictured with Bishop Edward C. Malesic, who thanked the sisters, brothers, and priests in attendance for their years of religious service. The bishop told the group that before becoming a priest, a sister helped him become an effective campus minister. “I see you as partners in ministry,” he said to the jubilarians. “You are living images of the Gospel. You inspire me.” Both Sisters Mary and Corita are celebrating their 70th Jubilees this year (see page 6 for full list of Jubilarians). ●

Hope Center

Recently Sisters Paula Terese Pilon, Theresa Hafner, and Mary Jo Curtsinger toured the Hope Center in Cleveland, an ecumenical nonprofit that offers educational, legal, and employment services to migrants. Jewel Yokie (far right), Manager of Career and Family Development at the Hope Center, and an alumna from our sponsored high school, Saint Joseph Academy, gave the tour. ●



Edna House

On May 24th, several sisters visited and toured Edna House in Cleveland, a home for women recovering from alcohol and drug addiction. Edna House was originally a convent and school at St. Colman Parish, where many of our sisters lived and taught. Several were instrumental in helping launch Edna House, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. From left are Erin Becker, co-founder of Edna House and board chair; Sisters Ann Kilbane, Corita Ambro, Mary Ann Sullivan, and Janet Bednar; and Jane Bennett, co-founder of Edna House and board member. Not pictured is Edna House Executive Director Jenn Lasky who also visited with the sisters. ●



Spring Retreat and Anniversary Recognition

On April 13, associates, associate inquirers, and sisters gathered at St. Joseph Center for the annual Associate Spring Retreat. The theme of this year's retreat was "Renewal Toward Wholeness: Body, Mind, and Spirit," and was presented by Sister Pat Kozak and Associate Carol Williams.

Following the retreat, associates celebrating milestone anniversaries were recognized during an Associate Anniversary Recognition ceremony (see below). Mass in the Chapel and dinner concluded the day.

"It was so good to spend this life-giving time with our associates," said Sister Pat. ●



Clockwise from top, Associates Janice Kushner and Sally Niklas, Sister Rita Shinhearl, and Associate Sharon Halm; Sister Pat Kozak; Associate Carol Williams; Sister Marie Gillich and Associate Stephanie West.



Associates celebrating anniversaries this year are, from left, Stephanie West, Rosemary Welsh, Kathy Bryda, Catherine Bailey, Michelle Tarr, Mary Laco, Ann O'Connor, Gina Sullivan, Carol Creek, Lidia Hidalgo, Judy Opalach, Sharon Halm, Ed Zavoda, Donna Ernst, and Tony Laco.

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

Jubilee

2024

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 Dorothy Turk, CSJ

75 Years



Sister Judi Keehnen, CSJ

65 Years



Sister Corita Ambro, CSJ

70 Years



Sister Priscilla Saxton, CSJ

65 Years



Sister Mary Hough, CSJ

70 Years



Sister Mary Ann Sullivan, CSJ

60 Years



Sister June Hansen, CSJ

65 Years



Sister Pam Owens, CSJ

50 Years

In Memoriam...



Sister Antoinette
Campanella, CSJ

Entered into eternal life
on April 6, 2024, after 74
years of religious life.



Sister Jane Ann
Comerford, CSJ

Entered into eternal life
on April 2, 2024, after
76 years of religious life.



Sister Hope Greener, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on
March 15, 2024, after 76
years of religious life.



Sister Mary Ann
Lavelle, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on
January 27, 2024, after 80
years of religious life.



Sister Marie Therese
Courtad, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on
November 15, 2023, after
60 years of religious life.



Sister Judith Cole, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on
November 10, 2023, after
68 years of religious life.

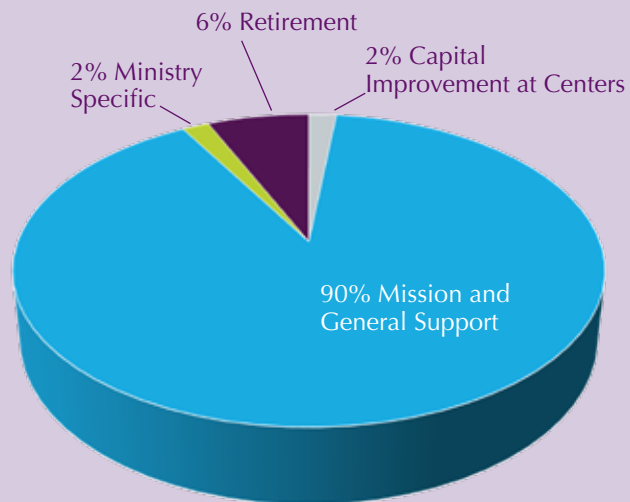


Sister Mary Schrader, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on
November 3, 2023, after
63 years of religious life.

Bless You!

We are so very grateful for your kind gifts of financial support. Your kindness helps care for our retired and infirm sisters, continue our ministries, and fosters our mission as we live and work so *that all may be one*. Here is how we used your contributions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:



Ways to Deepen Your Support

- Direct a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from your IRA to “Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph,” EIN No: 83-0481134.
- Consider a charitable gift annuity (CGA). For gifts of \$10,000 or more, you receive tax advantages and a lifetime stream of income payments – often at above market rates.

Single Life Rates

American Council on Gift Annuities 1.1.2024

Age	Rate	Annual Income \$10,000 Annuity
60	5.20%	\$520
70	6.30%	\$630
80	8.10%	\$810
90	10.10%	\$1,010

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



On April 8th, sisters, associates, staff, and friends gathered in the courtyard of St. Joseph Center to watch the solar eclipse. Above are Sisters Theresa Hafner, Carrie Vall, and Pat Kozak.

If you prefer to receive this newsletter electronically, please email communications@csjoseph.org.

BEYOND THE HABIT

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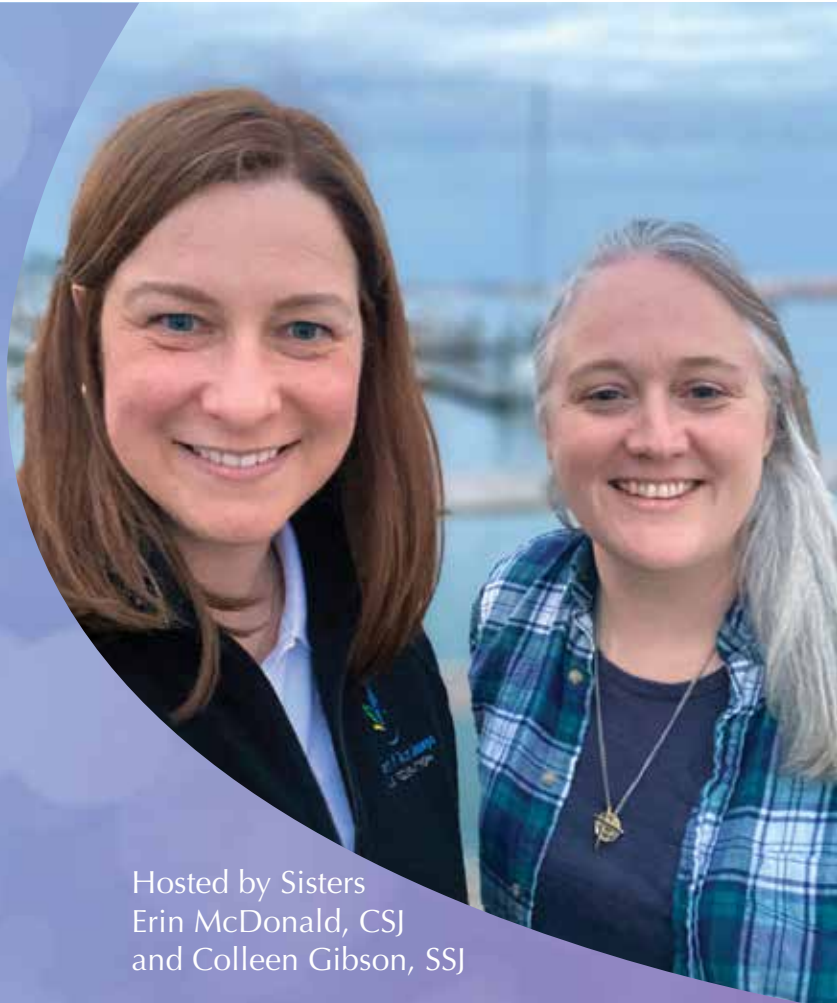
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