

Building Impact Through Local Partnerships

The Congregation of St. Joseph partners with many non-profit organizations in our communities in order to expand reach and encourage meaningful, lasting change. Here are just a few organizations we collaborate with and support that are making a difference.



From left are Sisters Carrie Vall and Kathy Thomas, President & CEO of the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking, Kirsti Mouncey, and Sisters Susan Imburgia, Rita Shinhearl, and Mary Ann Sullivan.

Collaborative to End Human Trafficking

Since its founding in 2007 through the support of women religious, the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking has worked to elevate awareness of human trafficking as a pervasive and often overlooked issue in Northeast Ohio. The Collaborative provides leadership and expertise to empower a systemic, community-wide response to human trafficking. Working in collaboration with a coalition of more than 70 member organizations, the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking is working to lead, empower, and connect our community to eradicate human trafficking. Last year, over 3,277 professionals and community members were trained on how to recognize and respond to human trafficking in Cuyahoga County.

[Learn more at CollabToEndHT.org](http://CollabToEndHT.org)

Hunger Network

Recognizing the vast prevalence of food insecurity in our world, the Congregation partners with and supports the Hunger Network, who has been working to end hunger and build a healthier community in Cleveland for over 25 years. With over 70 hunger relief sites in the greater Cleveland area, Hunger Network provides emergency food supply and hot meals to neighbors in need.



[Learn more at HungerNetwork.org](http://HungerNetwork.org)



Associate Mike Griffin and Director of Advancing Mission and Partnerships for the congregation, Pat Milenius (right) meet with CHN staff Annie Singer and Nina Holzer to discuss some of the housing services available to people in the community.

CHN Housing Partners

Too often, something many of us take for granted, a permanent address, is simply out of reach for many in our communities. The Congregation partners with and supports CHN Housing Partners, a non-profit affordable housing developer, housing service provider, and residential lender working to build more equitable communities, improve housing affordability, and expand the supply of affordable housing in our region. CHN Housing Partner's impact includes 3,900 new homeowners, 7,100 new homes, and housing stability services provided to more than 60,000 individuals.

[Learn more at CHNHousingPartners.org](http://CHNHousingPartners.org)

Life at *St. Joseph 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 at St. Joseph Center are available to women and men who are looking for a licensed assisted living residence.

If you are interested in a unique kind of living experience for yourself or a loved one, we invite you to consider joining us!

For information or to schedule a tour, contact Frank Taylor at 216.251.0303, or ftaylor@csjinitiatives.org.

Each spring, you can be sure to find our resident gardener, Sister Pat McHale, in the courtyard of St. Joseph Center cleaning up beds and taking care of the many varieties of flowers and plants around the property. Here she can be seen cutting daffodils to bring inside for our sisters and staff to enjoy throughout the Easter season. Thank you, Sister Pat, for all your hard work and tireless effort in keeping our property looking so beautiful!



In March, sisters signed letters from 23 area Catholic parishes and delivered them to their senators. The letters support the U.S. Bishops' call for immigration reform and respect for the dignity of all. In the foreground is Sister Ann Kilbane signing the letters.

On May 5th, sisters, staff, and associates celebrated Cinco de Mayo with a festive party in the dining room at St. Joseph Center. The colorful gathering included Mexican food and music, and fun games. Free will cash offerings were collected during the event that benefitted local charities that work with immigrants. From left are Sisters Loretta Schulte, Mary Ann Sullivan, and Karen Kirby.





In February, sisters at St. Joseph Center created special valentines for Meals On Wheels recipients as part of their Helping Hands initiative. At left are Sisters Judy Miller, Marilyn Nickol, Mary Ann Sullivan, and Carrie Vall.



In April, students from Saint Joseph Academy visited St. Joseph Center and brought our sisters Easter baskets they put together themselves. Thank you to all who helped make this a special Easter for our sisters!



In February, while the world watched the 2026 Winter Olympics on TV, our associates organized an Olympics-themed party at St. Joseph Center for sisters, other associates, and staff. Each table represented a different country and participants had fun “going for gold” by competing in games and other events. Left are Sisters Pat McHale, Carrie Vall (top row) and Sister Madeline Lammermeier and Associate Carolyn Rohan (bottom row). Center, is associate Joanne Kalynchuk. Right are Sister Pat Kozak with associates Donna Witmer and Donna Ernst.

IN THE COMMUNITY



On March 7th, Sister Juanita Shealey (seated right) was honored as part of a Women's History Month Celebration at St. Agnes Our Lady of Fatima Church in Cleveland. The celebration, which was in collaboration with the Diocese of Cleveland, recognized Sister Juanita for her significant contributions to the community over eight decades. Several sisters, associates, and Cleveland center staff attended the event in support of and to celebrate Sister Juanita. Back row from left are Lisa Gibbon, Director of Archives, Shirelle Boyd, Foodservice Director, Sisters Rita Shinhearl and Marie Gillich, and Associate Judy Opalach who is also an Archives staff member. Front row from left are Sisters Judy Miller and Juanita.

On May 7th, Sister Nancy Conway was honored by the Irish American Archives Society during its annual Walks of Life Awards Dinner. Attending in support of Sister Nancy were several sisters, associates, and staff of the congregation, including Eileen Biehl, an associate, employee, and dear friend of Sister Nancy. Founded in 1994, the Irish American Archives Society works to preserve and present the history of the Irish American experience in northeast Ohio. In 2012, Sister Kathleen Kilbane was recognized with this award. Right, Eileen Biehl and Sister Nancy. Far right, attendees browse the memorabilia table.



In April, sisters, associates, staff, and partners in mission from around the congregation gathered in person and by Zoom at St. Joseph Center for our annual assembly. Participants heard updates and presentations by our leadership team, department heads, and committees on the work of the congregation. Left, Sisters Susan Imburgia and Sallie Latkovich with Associate and Saint Joseph Academy Librarian, Becky Synk. Center, Sister Paula Terese Pilon addresses the group. Right, small group prayer and sharing.

SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY



On April 28th, sisters and associates joined with students, faculty, and administrators from Saint Joseph Academy for a Peace Vigil on the front lawn of St. Joseph Center. The vigil was to help raise awareness of and pray for justice for our immigrant neighbors. Sisters Chris Schenk and Marilyn Nickol along with SJA juniors Vera Swartz and Alma Mackey organized the event.



On February 21st, sisters, associates, and staff supported our neighbor and Mission Network member, Saint Joseph Academy by attending its annual fundraiser, "Celebrate the Academy." Back row from left are Sisters Nancy Conway, who serves on the board of SJA, and Paula Terese Pilon, Associate and former SJA teacher, Cathy Knittle, and Sister Chris Schenk. Front row from left are Sister Theresa Hafner, Anne Marie Carey Pecon, friend of the congregation and distinguished alumna award honoree at the event, Sister Pat Kozak, who serves on the board of SJA and delivered the prayer before dinner, and Sister Jacqueline Goodin. We are proud to support and celebrate Saint Joseph Academy this night and always as you continue to educate and infuse faith, leadership, and mission into your students.



On May 26th, sisters, associates, and lay residents lined the Saint Joseph Academy driveway to wave and clap for the 2026 graduating class as they processed by on their way to graduation during the traditional Walk of the Roses.

Jubilee

2026

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 around the Congregation this year!



Sister Juanita Shealey, CSJ

75 Years



Sister Jeanne Cmolik, CSJ

60 Years



Sister Pat Kozak, CSJ

60 Years



Sister Susan Imburgia, CSJ

65 Years



Sister Nancy Conway, CSJ

60 Years



Sister Kathy Thomas, CSJ

60 Years



Sister Rita Petruziello, CSJ

65 Years



Sister Joyce Joecken, CSJ

60 Years



Sister Theresa Hafner, CSJ

25 Years

To view biographies of all our 2026 Jubilarians, visit CSJoseph.org



Sister Judy Miller, CSJ

25 Years

In Memoriam



Sister Cecilia Nagel, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on June 23rd, 2025, after 78 years of religious life



Sister June Hansen, CSJ

Entered into eternal life on May 28, 2025, after 66 years of religious life.

We celebrate the lives of all our sisters who passed away this year.

Grotto Blessing

Several years ago, many of you made gifts to assist with the restoration of the Our Lady of Lourdes grotto on our campus. Recently, we installed a new plaque that honors the grotto's history and recognizes these and earlier donors. On May 8th, 2006, sisters rededicated the grotto during a special Mass and blessing ceremony.

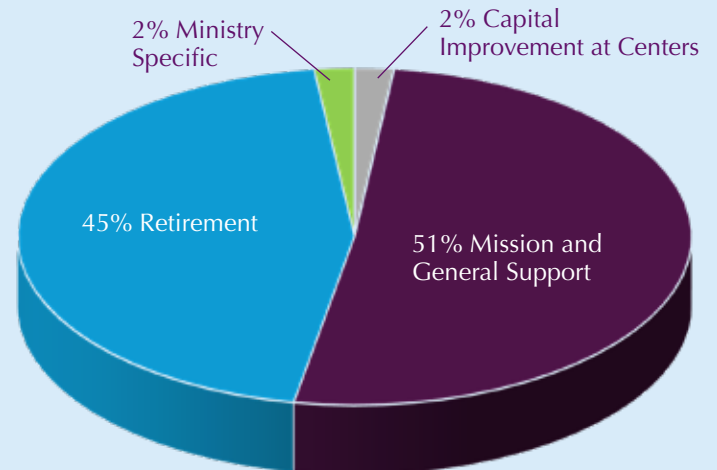
Thank you to all who helped keep this sacred space a place of beauty and prayer for all. We would especially like to thank Henry Hilow and Judy Ghazoul Hilow, and family, for their ongoing love and care of the grotto.

For the past 18 years, Judy and family have brought and planted flowers at the feet of the statue of the Blessed Mother where they continue to bloom in beauty for all to enjoy. We thank the Hilows for this annual labor of love and for their leadership gifts to assist with the grotto's restoration and new plaque. ●

From top: The refurbished grotto; Sisters Pat McHale and Marilyn Nickol look at a new plaque listing the many donors to the project; Supporters enjoy visiting and seeing the newly refurbished grotto; Henry Hilow and Judy Ghazoul Hilow with Eleanore Hilow Andreani and her children, Charlotte, Anastasia and Vera Andreani.

Thank You!

Your gifts of support are a blessing! Thank you for partnering with us in mission and helping us provide for our retired sisters. Here is how we used your charitable contributions July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025:



Other Ways to Give

● Qualified Charitable Distribution

Did you know that you can direct unneeded required minimum distributions (RMDs) to us through a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from your IRA? If you don't need the income, or the taxes it may incur, ask your advisor about a QCD.

● Donor Advised Fund

If you have a donor advised fund (DAF), please consider including us in your grant recommendations this year. We welcome DAF gifts!

● Leave a Legacy of Love

You can continue to partner with us in our mission of unifying love and service even after your lifetime by including the congregation in your plans. A planned gift may also reduce your estate taxes. Request our Legacy of Love brochure today.

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

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



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Spotlight Photo



Sisters Joyce Joecken and Jacqueline Goodin, and associate Mary Ann Fischer enjoyed a visit from Slider during a Cleveland Guardians game.

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

We invite you!

to join us in a truly unique living experience.

If you are looking for a licensed assisted living residence in a warm and friendly community environment for yourself or a loved one, we invite you to consider joining us!

Our residents enjoy:

- Modern, comfortable suites
- Beautiful grounds and outdoor spaces
- Life enrichment and wellness programs
- Volunteer service opportunities
- Mass and prayer offerings

For more information, contact **Frank Taylor** at **216.251.0303**, or ftaylor@csjinitatives.org.

We look forward to hearing from you!

