

Called to SERVE



St. Mary's Academy students
at the U.S.-Mexico border on a service learning trip.

SNJM NOW

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SISTERS OF THE HOLY NAMES OF JESUS AND MARY

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Top left: Sisters Mary Breiling and Pat McCrann at the 30th Anniversary celebration for Namasté.

Above right: St. Mary's Academy students visit Agua Prieta during a service learning trip.

Bottom left: Our Place Community Outreach staff members and volunteer in one of the food pantry storage rooms.



Letter from SNJM Province Leadership Team

SNJM U.S.-Ontario Province
Leadership Team (L-R): Sisters Carol
Higgins, Linda Patrick, Maureen
Delaney, Diane Enos, Marcia
Frideger and Mary Slater.

Dear Friends,

The story of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary has never been one of standing still. When Mother Marie-Rose and the first Sisters began this journey in 1843, each generation responded to the needs of its own time with courage, faith and an openness to where the Spirit was leading next.

Many of you will remember that our California, Oregon, Washington, New York and Ontario Provinces came together in 2006 to form the U.S.-Ontario Province. That decision reflected a changing world and a desire to strengthen our shared mission. Twenty years later, we are taking another important step forward.

This summer, the Sisters elected a new Congregational Leadership Team that will guide our congregation as one international community. Rather than functioning as separate provinces, we are now organized into three regions—

Canada, Lesotho and United States (which includes Brazil, Peru and Ontario, Canada)—working together under the leadership of an eight-member Congregational Leadership Team. The Sisters elected to this team bring a rich diversity of cultures, ministries, experiences and gifts. Together, they will help us move confidently into the future while honoring the unique identity of each region and community we serve.

As you read these pages, we hope you'll see a community looking toward the future with confidence, gratitude and hope. The faces may change, the structures may evolve, but the charism that has guided us since 1843 remains beautifully and faithfully the same.

Maureen Delaney SNJM *Diane Enos SNJM*
Marcia Frideger, SNJM *Carol Higgins, SNJM*
Linda Patrick SNJM *Mary Slater SNJM*

MINISTRY IN ACTION

Compassion Meets Care for Creation

For 39 years, the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary have been faithful partners in the ministry of Our Place Community Outreach in Spokane, Washington. The partnership reaches back to Our Place's founding in 1987, when several local churches came together in response to the community's growing need for food, clothing and basic hygiene supplies.

(Top) Sister Karen Conlin greets visitors to Our Place Community Outreach.

(Bottom Left) SNJM Associates Mary Ann Hartsfield and Renee Myron volunteer regularly at Our Place.

(Bottom Right) L-R: Our Place Executive Director Tracie Swanson, SNJM Associate Margaret Ames and Our Place Director Kat Hartsell.

From its early beginnings in a small house where the food pantry was only accessible by going down a flight of stairs into a basement, Our Place has grown into a vibrant community resource.

Throughout that journey, Holy Names Sisters and Associates have remained closely connected to Our Place through leadership as executive directors, service on its board, volunteer work, financial support and countless other acts of faithful partnership.

Today, Our Place serves more than 13,000 low-income neighbors each year through a dignity-centered, one-stop model that provides food, hygiene items, clothing, household goods and laundry services. At the same time, the organization has

become a leader in waste reduction, rescuing and redistributing usable food and household goods that might otherwise end up in landfills.

Our Place's commitment to sustainability recently earned the organization significant honors. Our Place was awarded a \$60,000 Public Participation Grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology to support its recycling and environmental initiatives. It was also named the Washington State Recycling Association's 2026 Nonprofit Recycler of the Year.

These honors recognize more than successful environmental programs. They celebrate a ministry that echoes the charism of the Sisters of the Holy Names. Margaret Ames, SNJM Associate and longtime Our Place volunteer, reflected on the community that has grown through this ministry,

saying, "The spirit of compassionate hospitality and respect of human dignity is beautifully lived through the daily interactions with people in great need."

To learn more about Our Place Community Outreach, visit

www.ourplacespokane.org. ■



40 YEARS OF NAMASTÉ

A Legacy of Rest, Renewal and Sacred Presence

Four decades ago, Sister Pat McCrann envisioned Namasté as a spirituality ministry, celebrating the sacredness of daily life. With the support of generous donors, a dedicated board of directors and the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary community, Namasté became a spiritual presence in the greater Portland, Oregon, metropolitan area. Offering a two-year training program in the art of spiritual direction, a women's wisdom circle, days of recollection, individual spiritual direction and opportunities for rest and renewal, Namasté created and hosted space for people desiring to deepen their spiritual lives and to discover the sacred in everyday experience.

The word *Namasté* is often translated as "I honor the God within you," making it a fitting name for a ministry that offered sacred invitations to pause, reflect and encounter the Divine in the quiet beauty of silence, creation and companionship. Now celebrating its 40th anniversary, the Namasté board is marking the completion of an extraordinary ministry that has touched countless lives through hospitality, spiritual accompaniment and spaces dedicated to rest and renewal.

Recognizing the healing power of silence and the restorative beauty of nature, Namasté developed three distinctive retreat spaces. Built with the generosity of many, the House of Solitude opened in 1992. Nestled in the woodlands overlooking the Lewis River in Southwest Washington, it offered a sacred space where it was so quiet, you could hear your soul. Redwood Cottage, built in 2012 using the environmentally sustainable Living Building Challenge principles, provided an intimate setting for solitude and prayer within a forested landscape in Oregon City. Sequoia Retreat Space welcomed small groups seeking opportunities for reflection, conversation and spiritual growth.

As this chapter closes, the legacy of

Namasté endures in the lives of those who found healing and hope within its sacred spaces. Its impact cannot be measured simply by the number of retreats offered or guests welcomed; Namasté has been home to countless transformational experiences. ■

(Top) Sister Pat McCrann and a former spiritual direction student.

(Bottom) Sister Mary Breiling helps prepare lumber used in building Redwood Cottage.



SUPPORTING SNJM VALUES

at Our Educational Ministries

Right: Ramona Convent students at the “Stories of Hope” event to support a Catholic Relief Services initiative.

Below: Students pack hygiene kits for families experiencing homelessness.



Education to justice, service, hospitality and liberating action anchors schools sponsored by SNJM’s Holy Names Education Ministries. The value-driven environment creates opportunities for students to learn about and become closer to their communities through service learning. When we asked campus ministers at schools in Oregon and California to tell us about their students, we were proud to see the next generation living the SNJM values.

At Ramona Convent Secondary School in Alhambra, California, the vibrant school year is always infused with service activities. Recent projects include a collaboration with



the Catholic Relief Services Peer Ministry Committee to host a “Stories of Hope” event that raised money to address hunger and malnutrition crises around the world.

Ramona students are also regularly granted the opportunity to minister to their community on school-wide Service Days. At the last Service Day, senior and sophomore students visited the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank to participate in the food distribution program, juniors traveled to Dockweiler Beach for a beach cleanup and freshmen assembled hygiene kits for families experiencing homelessness.

Students from St. Mary’s Academy in Portland, Oregon, traveled to the U.S.-Mexico border for a trip focused on justice and liberating action. They experienced the dynamic culture of borderlands with visits to Nogales and Tucson in Arizona as well as Agua Prieta in Mexico. Students partnered with local nonprofit agencies to visit migrant shelters, local cultural centers and government agencies.

Throughout the week, students heard firsthand accounts of migration and learned about the ways in which nonprofits in the border towns support migrants. Reflecting on their experience, they shared that they left with a better understanding of the complexities of immigration, the many factors that influence migration rates and the evolution of immigration policies. Trip chaperones praised the students’ nuance and critical thinking in their reflections, and their desire to learn more about an important international concern.

Visit www.hnem.org to learn more about the nine educational ministries sponsored by HNEM. ■

(Below) A service learning trip brings St. Mary’s Academy students to Agua Prieta in Sonora, Mexico.



Academy of the Holy Names
Albany, New York

Academy of the Holy Names
Tampa, Florida

Holy Names Academy
Seattle, Washington

Holy Names High School
Oakland, California

Holy Names Music Center
Spokane, Washington

Next Step Learning Center
Oakland, California

Ramona Convent Secondary
School
Alhambra, California

St. Mary’s Academy
Portland, Oregon

The Legacy Funds of Holy
Names University



Celebrating Jubilarians

This Fall we celebrate women who professed their vows 80, 75 and 70 years ago. You can read their biographies by visiting www.snjmusontario.org/jubilarians.

80-Year Jubilarian



Sister Pauline
St. Louis

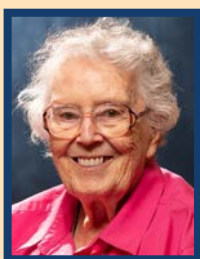
75-Year Jubilarians



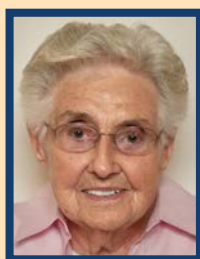
Sister Maleada
Mary Strange



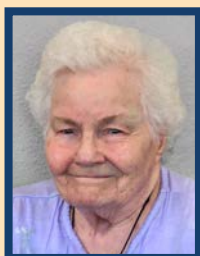
Sister Dolores
Bauman



Sister Anne
Herkenrath



Sister Virginia
Stuart



Sister Claudette
Conrad



Sister Mary
Lyons



Sister Anne
Toback

70-Year Jubilarians



Sister Corinne
Gignac



Sister Phyllis
Paquette



Sister Patricia
Griswold



Sister Ann
Paradis



Sister Mary
Haskins



Sister Lucinda
Peightal



Sister Kathryn
Ondreyco



Sister Ida Van
Hoomissen

Why They Give Anne and Steve Milligan

We know people have many reasons for being our Partners in Mission. If you'd like to share your story, contact us at development@snjmuson.org.

The charism of the Sisters of the Holy Names has long resonated with Anne and Steve Milligan.

Living out these values, they generously share their gifts of time, talent and treasure, with a particular commitment to education and care for the unhoused.

The Milligans deeply value the education their children Megan and Daniel received at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Los Gatos, California. They especially cherish their friendship with retired principal Sister Nicki Thomas and fondly remember Sister Betty Shields (RIP) and Sister Genie Rohner (RIP), whose care and guidance helped shape their children's lives.

Sister Betty, Megan's kindergarten teacher, sparked her lifelong love of learning, leading to her receiving the Sister Betty Award for exemplifying school values in the eighth grade. Inspired by that early foundation, Megan serves with the LA Catholic Worker and will begin teaching this fall. Daniel is entering his second year at Colgate University, studying economics and political science, and enjoys rowing on the university's crew team.

The family's bond with the Sisters of the Holy Names extends across generations. Anne's mother, Maureen O'Connell, who passed in 2025, shared a friendship with Sister Katherine Ondreyco, who recently retired from the SNJM Advancement Department. Maureen supported the Sisters financially and made sure the Sisters' chapel was adorned with a large poinsettia each

Christmas, a tradition Anne and Steve continue today.

Anne applies her financial expertise and commitment to service through several Catholic and educational organizations, including Santa Clara University's Board of Regents and Board of Fellows, the Catholic Community Foundation, her parish Finance Committee and Sacred Heart Nativity School.

Steve has more than 30 years of executive operational and financial leadership experience, including service as CEO and Board Member of Western Digital Corporation. In 2023, he became Director of Pastoral Planning and Implementation at the Diocese of San Jose.

Inspired by the Sisters and their lasting impact on their family, Anne and Steve have chosen to extend their support through a planned gift, ensuring their commitment to the Sisters' mission will continue for generations to come. ■



(Top) Daniel, Anne, Megan and Steve Milligan.

(Bottom) Megan Milligan receiving an award from Sister Betty Shields (RIP).

Rest in Peace

The Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary invite you to rejoice with us in the birth into eternal life of our Sisters. For extended obituaries, please visit our website at snjmusontario.org/about-us/obits.



Joan Katheryn Giubergia, SNJM

(Sister Joan Katheryn)

May 7, 1936 – February 22, 2026

Sister Joan Katheryn Giubergia departed this life in Los Gatos, California after 65 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Joan Saalfeld, SNJM

(Sister Matthew Marie)

April 18, 1941 – June 6, 2026

Sister Joan Saalfeld departed this life in Lake Oswego, Oregon after 65 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Dorothy Dees, SNJM

(Sister Mary Kristen)

November 26, 1934 – March 16, 2026

Sister Dorothy Dees departed this life in Seattle, Washington after 68 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Margaret Ball, SNJM

(Sister Stephan Joseph)

August 17, 1930 – June 15, 2026

Sister Margaret Ball departed this life in Lake Oswego, Oregon after 74 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Prisca Hui, SNJM

(Sister Mon-Ching)

January 8, 1937 – April 14, 2026

Sister Prisca Hui departed this life in Tualatin, Oregon after 66 years as a Announcers of the Lord/ Holy Names Sister.



Mary Louise Di Julio, SNJM

(Sister James Thomas)

July 19, 1932 – June 16, 2026

Sister Mary Louise Di Julio departed this life in Spokane, Washington after 74 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Catherine (Cathy) Leamy, SNJM

(Sister James of the Eucharist)

August 7, 1940 – April 24, 2026

Sister Cathy Leamy departed this life in Lake Oswego, Oregon after 67 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Kathleen Keller, SNJM

(Sister Veronica Therese)

June 9, 1946 – June 25, 2026

Sister Kathleen Keller departed this life in Silver Spring, Maryland after 59 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Marian Watkins, SNJM

(Sister Robert Marion)

March 14, 1936 – May 14, 2026

Sister Marian Watkins departed this life in Lake Oswego, Oregon after 69 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Margaret Sullivan, SNJM

(Sister Columban Mary)

April 3, 1933 – August 4, 2026

Sister Margaret Sullivan departed this life in Lake Oswego, Oregon after 71 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Cecilia A. Ranger, SNJM

(Sister Mary Sheila)

March 6, 1930 – August 5, 2026

Sister Cecilia A. Ranger departed this life in Lake Oswego, Oregon after 75 years as a Holy Names Sister.

Send a Gift of Prayer

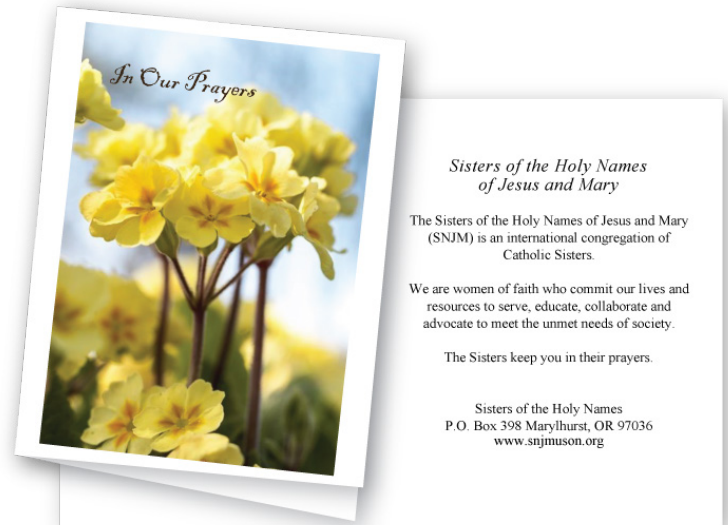
Life brings moments that call for something deeper than a card alone. During times of loss, illness, uncertainty or transition, or in moments of joy like births, weddings and anniversaries, a **Gift of Prayer** provides comfort and hope.

A **Gift of Prayer** is a meaningful way to honor someone or celebrate a milestone.

Through a **Gift of Prayer** from the Sisters of the Holy Names, intentions are lifted in prayer for healing, peace, strength, safety and renewal. Each recipient is remembered by our Sisters and Associates, and a personalized acknowledgment card is sent to the person you designate. Your gift not only offers spiritual support to someone you care about, it also helps sustain the Sisters and the ministries they serve. All donations remain confidential.

Send a gift of prayer online (www.snjmusontario.org/prayergift) or by sending this form to: Sisters of the Holy Names, PO Box 398, Marylhurst, OR 97036.

Another way to honor a life well lived. A Gift of Prayer remembers someone today. A gift in your estate plans honors the Sisters and their mission for generations to come. To learn more, contact Lynn Andrews at (503) 675-7128 or development@snjmuson.org



Prayers for _____
Name of person/persons

☐ In Memoriam (recently deceased? ☐ Yes ☐ No)

☐ Special Intention, or ☐ To honor/celebrate _____

healing, strength, peace, gratitude, speedy recovery, safe trip, etc.

or birthday, baptism, anniversary, holiday, promotion, friendship, etc.

Send card to _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Sign card from _____

Personal note (optional) _____

Prayers for _____
Name of person/persons

☐ In Memoriam (recently deceased? ☐ Yes ☐ No)

☐ Special Intention, or ☐ To honor/celebrate _____

healing, strength, peace, gratitude, speedy recovery, safe trip, etc.,

or birthday, baptism, anniversary, holiday, promotion, friendship, etc.

Send card to _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Sign card from _____

Personal note (optional) _____

Your Name _____ Enclosed is a donation of \$ _____ check # _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____



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Meeting the Needs of the Times

Since 1843, the charism of the Sisters of the Holy Names has evolved to meet the needs of the times. Education, care of orphans, parish work, pastoral care, spiritual direction and work with prisoners, those who live in poverty, migrant workers and immigrants are just the most common iterations. That's 183 years with over 7,000 Holy Names Sisters worldwide devoted to helping others in a myriad of ways!

But when "the needs of the times" include needs within the Sisters' own community, how are those needs met? The Sisters discovered that their mission could evolve to respond to their own changing needs as well.

From 1911 through the late 1950s, Marylhurst was the heart of the Oregon Province, supporting the Sisters' ministries and community life. By the 1970s, post-Vatican II changes saw many Sisters leaving for lay life, fewer young women entering and an aging population of Sisters becoming increasingly dependent on lay staff for care.

Recognizing the Sisters' changing needs, leadership began exploring how the land at Marylhurst could serve both the mission and its members. Beginning in 1982, land-use goals were developed with input from the entire province and, after years of study and community engagement, a plan was created for a continuing care retirement center established by the Sisters. The vision would provide a new ministry for retired Sisters, generate funding for other ministries and ensure long-term care for the community.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the grand opening of Mary's Woods, the result of nearly two decades of visioning and hard work by the Sisters. As Oregon Provincial Lynda Thompson wrote in 2001, "Sisters, your lives, your ministry has been, over these many years, a way God has chosen to reveal Himself. In this newest ministry at Mary's Woods, we believe the holiness and happiness of your lives will continue to radiate." Mary's Woods exists today as a testament to a group of courageous women who found a way to evolve the SNJM charism to meet the needs of the times, even while the needs were their own.

Visit www.snjmusontario.org/maryswoods to view a documentary on the history of Mary's Woods.



Construction nears completion at Mary's Woods in Lake Oswego (2000).
Notice the original SNJM Convent building with the red tiled roof.