

Avanti!



Sister Christian Cahill (right) with (left to right) Provincial Sister Maureen Delaney, Novitiate Director Sister Elizabeth Liebert and Candidate Director Sister Marcia Frideger.

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From Sister Maureen



Avanti

is the Italian word for “forward” or “come on!” Each day we walk into a

future unknown and uncertain. These past months clearly remind us of how true this is. There is a temptation to “stand still” because of this profound uncertainty. Yet today, as Sisters of the Holy Names, deeply rooted in a history of responding to the needs of the times, we move into this future as we have always done with faith, hope, creativity and the belief that new life will arise. This issue of SNJM NOW shares some ways in which our Sisters are “moving forward.”

We invite you to walk forward with us. We have been honored to receive prayer requests from many friends and benefactors, and we hope that you will continue to share your hopes and needs so that we can continue to pray with you.

God bless you and your families.

Maureen Delaney SNJM
Provincial Leader



Sisters Looking Forward

Sister Linda Haydock, congregational leader, addressed Holy Names Sisters in three countries during the virtual Assembly.

“What does the future look like for the Sisters?”

This question, whether referring to the Sisters of the Holy Names or women religious in general, is one that we hear often. It has been more than 50 years since Vatican II led to a dramatic change of story for women religious, and the story continues to evolve.

This summer, more than 225 Sisters of the Holy Names gathered virtually for five days of prayer and discussion about the future of the Province. The theme of the gathering, Hope Rising, is evidence of the optimism that the Sisters feel about the future. “We believe in the future of religious life!” they proclaim. “It will be different, but we are confident that women religious will continue.”

As Sister Linda Haydock, congregational leader, encouraged: this time is a call to Holy Names Sisters to embrace the **evolution of religious life** by

- Joining in a **global sisterhood**, including with SNJM members and affiliates globally;
- **Collaborating and partnering** for the future;

- Living the **charism of religious life**; and
- Naming, claiming and proclaiming our vulnerability as a gift that we have to offer as we **stand in solidarity with those struggling for liberation** in our world.

Collaboration and transformation will be themes for the years ahead. In vulnerability, Sisters are being called to a simplicity in life that can be a new source of energy, with a new sense of meaningful contribution and the awareness that we are part of a greater whole. Sister Linda noted that “our personal and communal experiences of transformation usually free us for what will come next.”

Throughout her remarks, Sister Linda reiterated the call to hope, and she ended with an invitation to embrace the challenge of making hope alive. As we go forth into the future: “Sisters, let hope rise in us! Let hope rise in our world!” ■

Using Our Resources to Meet Local Needs

“What is the greatest need in our local area that the Sisters can help fill?”

When the Congregation was founded, the response to that question was education. During more than 175 years, the Sisters of the Holy Names staffed hundreds of schools, both those connected to parishes and those established and sponsored by the Sisters.

When one of those schools, Marylhurst University in Oregon, closed in 2018, the site was returned to the Sisters, who renamed it “Marylhurst Commons” and began a process of determining what to do next. The beautiful campus has great meaning to the Sisters, many of whom were educated as teachers there. The Sisters also have a cemetery on the grounds.

One of the first projects has been renovating the Faculty House, which was occupied by Sisters for many years. It will now house up to seven Sisters while providing guest rooms and meeting space for retreats or other gatherings (see related story below).

After the Sisters’ leaders identified their guiding values – including protection of historical buildings and open spaces and ensuring environmental and financial sustainability for future uses – they returned to the question: “What need in our local area can we help fill?”

In a careful process of gathering input through focus groups that included Sisters, Marylhurst alumni,

community organizations and neighbors, a clear need for affordable housing emerged. Believing that collaboration is key to the success of future ministries, the Sisters reached out to Mercy Housing Northwest (MHNW), an SNJM-cosponsored organization for over 25 years. Sister Georgia Yianakulis, who serves on the MHNW Board of Directors, says the housing nonprofit has “an excellent reputation of providing affordable housing with resident community services that include educational support services for students, health and wellness opportunities, food assistance and finance and employment coaching.”

MHNW is exploring the feasibility of providing housing for 75-100 families at Marylhurst Commons. Ultimately, this could mean many years of continuing the Sisters’ tradition of responding to unmet needs. ■



(Top) The iconic BP John building will remain a focal point of Marylhurst Commons.

(Bottom) Sister Mary Breiling checks in on the renovation of Faculty House.

Faculty House

The renovated Faculty House (also previously known as Villa Maria) will soon be a focal point for the spirit of hospitality that is a cornerstone of the Holy Names community. Its resident Sisters are committed to creating a welcoming

community, providing accommodations, small and large gathering spaces, a catering kitchen and beautiful gardens.

The renovation would not be possible without donor support. Major

benefactors include Thomas Lovcik, whose bequest will honor his sister, Sister Constance Lovcik, donors who are naming guest rooms for Sisters or loved ones, and Marylhurst University alumni celebrating the spirit of their college

days. If you are interested in learning about how to honor SNJM teachers who made a difference in your life by supporting the Faculty House, please contact Donor Relations Manager Adrianna Carr at acarr@snjmuson.org or (503) 697-6435.

Welcome, Sister Christian Cahill



At a time when few are seeking religious life as an option, Sister Christian Cahill is making the SNJM journey

as she contributes her many gifts in ministry within the Church, society and the SNJM community. In a powerful affirmation of God's ongoing call to religious life, the welcome ceremony for Sister Christian on August 8 combined the traditional sounds and sights of a religious ceremony with the videoconferencing technology that has become a part of everyday shelter-in-place life during the coronavirus pandemic.

Sister Maureen Delaney, Provincial Leader, welcomed all to this special event. "As a Province, we welcome Christian as she takes the next step on her vocation journey to become a Sister of the Holy Names. We welcome her to a life of surprises, challenges, graced opportunities, prayer times, community times, fun times, and times of finding meaningful ways of living religious life in this present age." Far from an experience of isolation, it was an

SNJM community event. Sisters, Affiliates, Christian's parents, sister and friends participated in the ceremony via Zoom. The service was filled with music, Scripture readings, reflections and joyful support for the next step in Sister Christian's deepening exploration of the history, spirituality, ministries and evolving future of the Sisters of the Holy Names.



In addition to the typical study of the vows, community life and ministry in light of the SNJM Constitutions, Sister Christian and the two Holy Names Sisters who are part of her novitiate community (Sister Elizabeth Liebert and Sister Carol Nicklas) will participate in an intercommunity and intercultural formation experience with multiple religious congregations. “We will all be exploring together the joys and challenges of religious life in this transitional time for religious life and for the Church. It’s a truly exciting moment,” said Sister Elizabeth, who serves as Novitiate Director for the U.S.-Ontario Province.

In Her Own Words

“I met Sister Cathy Beckley and the Sisters while attending Seattle University. The Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary initially drew me in through the deep spirituality connected with music and art. I liked that Holy Names Sisters were not carbon copies of each other, but distinct individuals. I knew that I could really be myself in this group. As I grew to know the community more, I connected with the social justice focus emphasizing advocacy for women and marginalized communities. I continue to be impressed with the individual women who, from the very beginning, have courageously and boldly stepped out and tried new things. I enjoy getting to know the community more and I look forward to the opportunities to deepen my connection with God and the community.

“I am overwhelmed with the messages of support and encouragement that I have received over the last few weeks from Sisters and Associates as well as friends, colleagues and family. Looking back on my journey, I am incredibly grateful for the people along the way who have walked part of this journey with me.”



(Opposite, top) The novitiate community (left to right): Sister Elizabeth Liebert, Sister Sudha Arul, SL, Sister Carol Nicklas and Sister Christian Cahill.

(Opposite, bottom) Sister Christian was an acolyte during a celebration of the Sisters’ 150 years of ministry in California. The celebration was held Oct. 6, 2018 at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland, CA.

(Above top) As part of her experience as a candidate, Sister Christian (right) lived in community with (left to right) Holy Names Sisters Mary Rogers, Margaret Kennedy, Carol Fleitz, Annamarie Colapietro as well as Sister Kathleen McCabe, OSF.

(Above bottom) The Cahill family, including Sister Christian’s parents Sue and Joe Cahill (top left) and sister Michelle (bottom) participated in the ceremony from afar.

If you or someone you know feels a call to religious life, we invite you to reach out to our vocations co-coordinators, Sister Teresa Shields and Sister Mimi Maloney, at (503) 675-7100 or info@snjmuson.org.

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you shouldn't forget.*



If you've ever opened a bank account, set up a retirement plan, or taken out an insurance policy, you may have completed a form to say who will inherit the money in those accounts someday. Then again, the customer service rep may have forgotten to mention the form.

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All it takes is a simple signature.

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Sarah Harris
sharris@snjmuson.org

(503) 675-7111



Sisters of the Holy Names
of Jesus and Mary
U.S.-Ontario

Sisters in Ministry During COVID-19

Sister Charlyne Brown (Washington)

With the onset of the pandemic, Sister Charlyne Brown, Toppenish, WA, remains in contact via telephone with her English as a Second Language students from Nuestra Casa in Sunnyside, an agency offering educational services as well as citizenship classes for adult immigrants. She talks with them frequently, offering support, encouraging them to speak English with her, and learning about their lives. Similarly, she calls members of St. Helena's Guild, parishioners of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, her parish church, catching up on how they and their families are doing during these uncharted times.

Sister Yenny Chipana Lima (Lima, Peru)

Sister Yenny Chipana Lima lives and ministers in San Juan de Lurigancho, an area on the outskirts of Lima, Peru. For the last two years, Sister Yenny has been working with Venezuelan people who, because of the economic crisis in their home country, have immigrated to Lima.

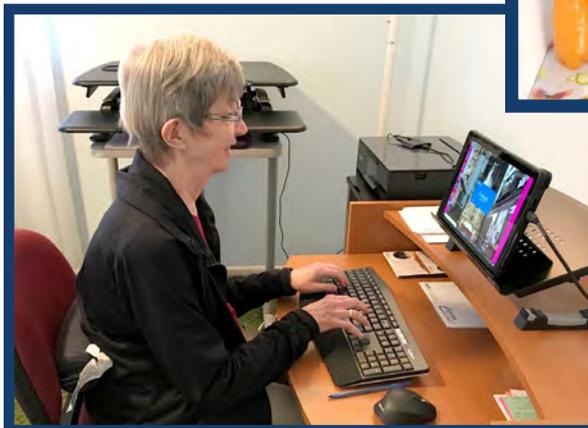
Most Venezuelan immigrants have been unable to continue their work as street vendors because of COVID-19. With their families, they face dire poverty and, in some cases, homelessness. Sister Yenny coordinates a men's and women's shelter program as well as a community kitchen where Sister and volunteers prepare one meal a day for immigrant families. Monday through Friday, 60 meals are

distributed; on weekends Sister Yenny and volunteers go to the produce market and the local food bank to get supplies for these meals.

Sister Mary Annette Dworshak (Washington)

Over a three-day weekend in mid-March, Holy Names Academy in Seattle, WA made an abrupt transition to virtual learning, and faculty member Sister Mary Annette Dworshak made the pivot as well! With inspiration and adaptability, the school is reinventing classes, baccalaureate,

commencement and social bonding activities. The fall season brings the problematic reality of educating at a distance amid uncertainty about when classes may change to a hybrid format. With faculty, students, and parents working together, the school continues to support the students to act with confidence, advocate for justice and serve with compassion.



(Top) Sister Charlyne Brown

(Above) Sister Yenny Chipana Lima

(Left) Sister Mary Annette Dworshak



Sister Joan Katheryn Giubergia (California)

As a 7-year-old, Sister Joan Katheryn took up sewing using her grandmother's treadle sewing machine. Through the years, she has made holy habits for the Sisters, gifts for family and friends, quilts, aprons, jackets and clothes for herself and for Sisters. She even designs custom patterns for unique items.

When COVID-19 arrived, she got busy sewing masks, many of which are now worn by Sisters and local SNJM care

coordinators, as well as staff members in her doctor's office and at her residence, Merrill Gardens. In gratitude for the masks he received, the manager of a local mortuary

gave Sister two spools of elastic to continue her ministry. Sister Joan Katheryn has sewn 500 masks and is working on her next 500!

Sister Phyllis Jaszkwiaik (Oregon)

In Portland, OR, Sister Phyllis Jaszkwiaik works with the St. Charles parish liturgy committee planning weekly Sunday Masses celebrated via Zoom. Once a month she prepares the reflection for the liturgy, and she recently helped to organize the annual parish retreat in a local park so participants could be safely socially distanced. Sister Phyllis is also a part of the justice committee of the parish, which is developing a virtual workshop on racism for parishioners.

Sister Barbara Nixon (California)

For 11 years, Sister Barbara Nixon has been Director of Faith Formation and Justice Ministry at St. Anne Parish in Byron, CA. As COVID-19 led to "hibernation," traditional classes and outreach to families ended. Sister Barbara asked herself, "Who needs help? How can I/we help in these circumstances?" Parishioners who are most in need include the elderly and lonely, families without work and essential workers without childcare. In response, plans and actions have emerged including phone contacts and grocery shopping help, assistance with the Tri-Delta Food Pantry, selection of age-appropriate YouTube videos chosen by catechists and virtual Confirmation preparation.

Sister Patricia Parachini (Maryland)

Sister Pat is not letting the pandemic slow her down. She continues her spiritual direction work with 15-20 directees, conducting most sessions virtually. She also teaches an online course for Carmelite interns assigned to ministries across the country. As a member of the SNJM Immigrant and Refugee Grant Committee, she was inspired by the many projects seeking funding, so she encouraged family and friends to make donations to celebrate her 80th birthday. They delighted her by donating more than \$2,500! She is grateful that she is still able to be in active ministry.

Sister Cecilia Ranger (Oregon)

When the pandemic intervened in daily life, Sister Cecilia Ranger asked herself how she could help. A former home economics teacher, she called upon her skills as a seamstress to make masks for the Sisters and residents of Mary's Woods retirement community where she lives. When she ran out of fabric, she put out a call for more and Sister Patricia



(Top to bottom)
Sister Joan Katheryn Giubergia
Sister Patricia Parachini
Sister Phyllis Jaszkwiaik (blue shirt)
Sister Barbara Nixon

Celebrating Our 2020 Senior Jubilarians

J

ubilee is a time of thanksgiving, remembering, celebrating and giving thanks for life, people and service. While the pandemic prevented the in-person celebration of our Senior Jubilarians this year, we rejoice with them and their years of ministry as professed Sisters.

75 Years

Michaeline Falvey, SNJM (Sr. Michaeline)
Rosemary Petrimoulx, SNJM (Sr. Eva May)

70 Years

Eileen Fitzgerald, SNJM (Sr. Mary Williams)
Theresa Cecilia Lowe, SNJM (Sr. Theresa)
Delores Rashford, SNJM (Sr. Rosa Dolora)
Betty Bentler, SNJM (Sr. Marion Benedict)

60 Years

Rosemary Delaney, SNJM (Sr. William James)
Carol Nicklas, SNJM (Sr. Mary Joseph Patrick)
Barbara Nixon, SNJM (Sr. Maureen Robert)
Janet Ryan, SNJM (Sr. Christopher James)
Kathleen Hearn, SNJM (Sr. Rosita Mary)
Domenica Maria Valle, SNJM (Sr. Domenica Maria)
Prisca Hui, SNJM (Sr. Mon-Ching)
Carol Ann McMullen, SNJM (Sr. Mary Ellen)
Judy Ryan, SNJM (Sr. Janet Maureen)
Kathleen Callaway, SNJM (Sr. Marian Roberta)
Dee Marie Reeder, SNJM (Sr. Mary Alta)
Dolores Wehle, SNJM (Sr. Cecelia Bernadette)



Pfenning (in photo, standing) responded with yards of colorful material. Sister Cecilia also has started making greeting cards using the photos of Sister Shirley Krueger, which she makes available for a donation.

Sister Jeanette Wood (Oregon)

Sister Jeanette Wood, a music teacher, turned to Zoom when COVID-19 made

it impossible to continued violin lessons with her students in person. With an adventurous spirit, the 91-year-old Sister wholeheartedly embraced online technology to engage with her pupils, who range from grade through high school. Following a summer hiatus, she has been making plans for resumption of lessons soon. Meanwhile, she continues to hone her own violin skills! ■

(Left) Sisters Patricia Pfenning and Cecilia Ranger

(Right) Sister Jeanette Wood

Rest in Peace

Sister Mary Herbert Raphael, SNJM

(Margaret E. Raphael)

June 4, 1917 -
May 20, 2020

Passed away
in Oakland,
California

Professed Sister of
the Holy Names for
84 years

The Glory of Life

Is to love
Not to be loved,
to give, not to get,
to serve, not to be served,
to be a strong hand
in the dark to another
in the time of need,
to be a cup of strength
to any soul in a crisis of
weakness:
This
is to know
the glory of life.

Sister Mary Ann McGee, SNJM

Sister Michele Marie

February 11,
1931 – July
27, 2020

Passed away
in Spokane,
Washington

Professed Sister
of the Holy Names
for 68 years

SUSCIPE

Take, Lord, and receive all my
liberty,
my memory, my understanding,
and my entire will,
All I have and call my own.
You have given all to me.
To you, Lord, I return it.
Everything is yours;
do with it what you will.
Give me only your love and
your grace,
that is enough for me.

— St. Ignatius of Loyola

Sister Mary Leo Grijalva, SNJM

Eleanor Grijalva

February
8, 1932 –
August 28,
2020

Passed away
in Saratoga,
California

Professed Sister of
the Holy Names for 67 years

“Estoy muy agradecida a todos
que me permitieron entrar en
sus vidas.
¡Se ha enriquecido mi vida!
Gracias, Dios, por el privilegio.”

“I am most grateful to those
who have allowed me to enter
their lives.
My life has been enriched!
Thank you, God, for the
privilege.”

— Sister Mary Leo

Sister Jean Elizabeth Griffin, SNJM

(Margaret Ann Griffin)

October 19, 1922 -
July 12, 2020

Passed away
in Saratoga,
California

Professed Sister of the
Holy Names for 75 years

Speak to one another with
psalms,
hymns and spiritual songs.
Sing and make music in your
heart to God,
always giving thanks to God for
everything.

— Ephesians 5

Sister Catherine Nessi, SNJM

Sister Francis Venard

September
20, 1930 –
August 18,
2020

Passed away
in Saratoga,
California

Professed Sister of the Holy Names for
70 years

What does GOD ask of you?
To act justly,
to love tenderly and
walk humbly
with your God.

— Micah 6:8

Sister Miriam Carmel Pontieri, SNJM

Eleanor Pontieri

June 3, 1922
– October 1,
2020

Passed away
in Spokane,
Washington

Professed Sister
of the Holy Names
for 75 years

Lord, You are my inheritance

— Psalms 16

Send a Gift of Prayer

You just received word that a loved one has passed away, or someone you know is ill or has been in an accident. An invitation arrives in the mail to celebrate a birth, wedding, anniversary, or other special milestone in the life of a dear friend. You want to send a special card, but are not sure what would be appropriate.

Send a GIFT OF PRAYER from the Sisters of the Holy Names.

A GIFT OF PRAYER is a thoughtful and special way to honor someone, remember the deceased, give thanks for God's many blessings, or celebrate a special occasion.



A GIFT OF PRAYER shows compassion and can be particularly consoling for a friend or loved one who is coping with a death or other life challenge. Prayers may be requested for special intentions such as improved health, successful surgery, safe return, comfort, strength, healing and peace.

Recipients and their intentions are held in the prayers of the Holy Names Sisters and Associates. A beautiful, personalized card acknowledging your gift of prayer is sent to the person or family you indicate; donation amounts are kept confidential. All contributions help support the Sisters and our ministries.

We hope you find our GIFT OF PRAYER a helpful way for you to make meaningful remembrances.

Send a gift of prayer online (www.snjmusontario.org/prayergift) or send this form in the enclosed envelope.

Prayers for _____
Name of person/persons

In Memoriam (recently deceased? Yes No)

Special Intention _____

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

To honor/celebrate _____

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

Send card to _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Sign card from _____

Personal note (optional) _____

Your Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Enclosed is a donation of \$_____ check # _____



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A Prayer for Our Earth

By Pope Francis

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of
this earth,
so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,

that we may sow beauty, not pollution and
destruction.
Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.

** This prayer is included in Pope Francis's 2015 encyclical Laudato Si'*

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