

Sym NOW

Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary

SPRING 2026

Volume 10, Issue 1



Enduring COMMUNITY

Sisters and other members of the
Mid-Atlantic Coalition Against Modern Slavery
witness against human trafficking.

SNJM Now is a publication of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, PO Box 398, Marylhurst, OR 97036.

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Top left: MACAMS during a public witness in 2015.

Above right: Salish School of Spokane students at the Gonzaga Haven ribbon cutting.

Bottom left: Partners in Mission: The Garvey Family.



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,

Community has always been at the heart of religious life. For the Sisters of the Holy Names, it began in the quiet, faithful rhythm of Sisters living together, praying and working side by side. Over the years, our community expanded outward into the wider world as our ministries called us in new directions.

The stories in this issue of *SNJM Now* reflect the ways that community grows when it is rooted in relationship rather than place. We share the story of the St. Mary's Academy alumna who won the Nobel Prize and her journey from being inspired to being an inspiration. We meet a group in the Mid-Atlantic area who raise awareness about human trafficking, discovering the potential that emerges when individuals unite around a shared moral goal. And we reflect on the transformation of land once held by

the SNJM community becoming the site of a new Indigenous school and cultural community center, new purpose rising from shared history.

Together, these stories remind us that community adapts, expands and endures. Whether it is formed in convents, neighborhoods, classrooms or quiet places of care, community continues to shape who we are and how we serve.

We hope this issue invites you to recognize the communities that have formed you, and to notice the ones you are still being called to build.

Maureen Delaney SNJM

Diane Enos SNJM

Marcia Frideger, SNJM

Carol Higgins, SNJM

Linda Patrick SNJM

Mary Slater SNJM

COMMUNITY COMES HOME

Land, Language and the Salish Future

The gift of two and a half acres of land to the Salish School of Spokane carries meaning far beyond new buildings. The land, once part of the grounds surrounding the convent of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, rests along a stretch of the Spokane River where Salish people historically sustained their community.

(Top) A teacher works with students at the Salish School of Spokane.

(Bottom) Architectural rendering of the entrance of the future Salish School of Spokane.

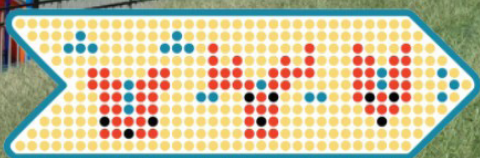
The Salish, a major Indigenous group, have long inhabited a vast region of the Pacific Northwest, including present-day Washington, Idaho, Montana, British Columbia and parts of Oregon. Donated

by Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington, the land's return to Salish stewardship stands as a meaningful act of preservation and restorative justice.

Founded in 2009 by five Southern Interior Salish women, the Salish School exists to revitalize critically endangered Salish languages and culture. All subjects are taught in *nsəl̓xciṇ* (the Colville Salish language), including courses in chemistry, math, music, art and history. Enrollment in the school is a family commitment, with parents also required to spend 60 hours per year studying Salish. The new campus will allow the school to expand, providing more classrooms and meeting space as well as a cultural community center. Adjacent to the new Salish School campus, Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington is building "River Family Haven," a 72-unit

supportive housing development for low-income families. At the end of the 15-year investor period, the housing development will also be donated to the Salish School of Spokane. The ultimate vision is to create a Salish village where language, culture and daily life come together.

For co-founder LaRae Wylie and school principal Chris Parkin, this project is the realization of a lifelong dream. It reflects a shared commitment by the school, Catholic Charities and the wider community to honor the past, care for the land and build a future where Salish language, culture and people can thrive. To learn more about the Salish School of Spokane and the new campus project please visit salishschoolofspokane.org. ■



salish
school of spokane

COMMUNITY TAKES SHAPE

Prayer, Presence and the Work of Justice

More than twenty-five years ago, SNJM Sisters Carroll Ann Kemp and Carol Ries invited a few women to gather in their home to learn, to listen and to understand the growing reality of human trafficking. At the end of that first meeting, Sister Carroll Ann offered a quiet challenge, "What if, next time, each of us brings one more person?"

When they met again, the group had more than doubled. What started as concern quickly became commitment. From that living room gathering, the Mid-Atlantic Coalition Against Modern Slavery, MACAMS, was born.

As the work of MACAMS unfolded, it echoed a wider movement within the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. In 2004, the Congregation issued a Corporate Stand against trafficking of women and children, committing all Sisters to this justice ministry.

In the years since, MACAMS has grown into a diverse, interfaith coalition active throughout the Washington, D.C. area. While it began with Catholic religious women, it soon expanded to include lay people of many faith traditions. "Our diversity is a gift," Sister Carol says. Ending human trafficking requires all of us.

The mission of MACAMS is rooted in prayer, education and advocacy. Members create a network of care behind the scenes. When someone reaches out for help, the coalition connects them with trusted resources like the Polaris Project's U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline or The Alliance to End Human Trafficking. One woman came to them from California, unaware that her own uncle trafficked

her to Washington D.C. Through the MACAMS network of relationships, she found legal help and a path toward safety and healing.

Every other month, a small group gathers to stand on street corners, holding signs and praying together. Their presence is quiet but unmistakable. The goal is to provide awareness that trafficking is happening here, in our own communities, not "somewhere else." On alternate months, the group meets to learn together, plan advocacy efforts and welcome speakers. They visit legislators, educate parishes and speak with students, knowing awareness might one day help someone else.

The work to end this crime is challenging. Trafficking is lucrative, global and relentless. Prayer and community are what continue to support the MACAMS members in their efforts. Sister Carol shares, "We don't let it keep us down; we persevere. If even one person is helped through our actions, it was worth it." ■



(Above) One of the coalition's street corner gatherings in 2024.

(Below) MACAMS gatherings through the years: 2017, 2021 and 2014.



From Teachers to Mentors to Friends



“When you’re little, you don’t know anything about the lives of your teachers. Now we’re learning their stories,” said Dana Jacobs. Jacobs and her friends Janey Gassman and Mercedes Loprinzi were taught by Sisters at The Madeline School and St. Mary’s Academy in Portland, OR, in the ‘60s and ‘70s.

L-R: (Seated) Sisters Liz Hecker, Rosemary Anne Parker and Arnadene Bean with their former students, (standing) Dana Jacobs, Mercedes Loprinzi and Janey Gassman.

Decades later, the relationships they have built with their former teachers have become essential. Several times a year, the trio of students visit Mary’s Woods Senior Living in Lake Oswego, OR, to connect with their former teachers, SNJM Sisters Liz Hecker, Arnadene Bean and Rosemary Anne Parker. Jacobs is quick to point out what a unique opportunity they have. “What’s so special about it?! Well, do you know any other 74-year-olds who can visit their first grade teacher, their seventh grade teacher and their high school biology teacher?”

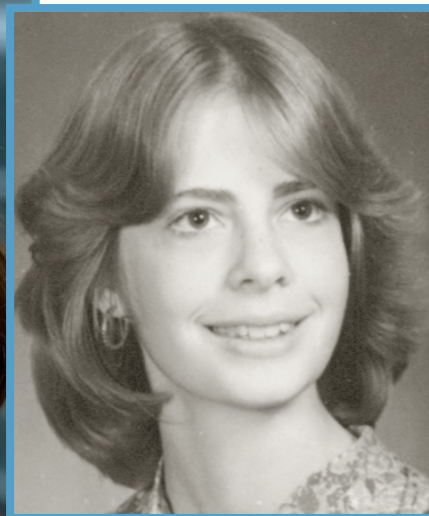
At the Madeline School, Sister Liz was their first grade teacher. “She taught me how to read and write. She gave me the skills that I’ve used every day of my life,” said Loprinzi. About their seventh grade teacher, Sister Arnadene, she said, “She knew how to bring a sense of calm

and peace to all 50 of us classmates. She taught us about social justice way before it was a thing.” During high school at St. Mary’s Academy, their biology teacher, Sister Rosemary Anne, “prepared us for college, and made science interesting to high school girls. Her zest for knowledge encouraged us to strive hard.”

Over time, their student-teacher relationships have evolved into friendships and mentorships. Continued connection has given the students a chance to better understand and celebrate the lives of the Sisters. “Their dedication toward serving others is an outstanding tribute to their kindness and compassion, and their work toward creating a better world,” said Jacobs. “These Sisters are our friends, our teachers from six decades ago, but they continue to teach us at each and every visit.” ■

St. Mary's Alum Wins Nobel Prize

“Listen to your gut, your heart, or wherever you get hit when you think you’re really interested in something.” Mary Brunkow shared that advice with students at St. Mary’s Academy, her alma mater (class of ’79). It’s good advice from anyone, but coming from a Nobel laureate, you might listen extra hard. Now students are more excited than ever about their science studies after the news of Brunkow’s 2025 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine.



Nobel laureate Mary Brunkow, St. Mary's Academy class of 1979.

Brunkow is currently a molecular biologist at the Institute for Systems Biology in Seattle and shares the Nobel with Fred Ramsdell and Shimon Sakaguchi. The group was collectively awarded for their work discovering a class of immune cells that help to prevent the body from attacking its own tissues, providing fundamental knowledge of how the immune system is regulated. Brunkow called the work “an amazing team effort.”

Since the opening of the SNJM all-girls school in 1859, each generation of St. Mary's students has been surrounded by supportive women, from the caring faculty and staff who nurture the community to the driven alumni who pioneer new paths. For students in the midst of their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education, Brunkow achieving the highest award in her field is

huge news. As the St. Mary's community celebrated news of Brunkow's Nobel, senior Tuula remarked, “It goes to show that anyone here can go on to do anything. As someone who wants to go into STEM, it's really inspiring.”

Brunkow has commended the high school community that helped her cultivate her academic growth, including her teachers Sister Mollie Reavis and Sister Rosemary Anne Parker. She has also acknowledged the role models, career mentors and women in science who gave her “the courage and incentive to persevere.” Now it's Brunkow's turn to inspire the next generation. In her Nobel acceptance speech, she shared, “My hope is that I, in turn, can be that role model for my own daughters, as well as for the other young women who are excited about science.” ■

Celebrating Jubilarians

This Spring we celebrate women who professed their vows 60 years ago.
You can read their biographies by visiting www.snjmusontario.org/jubilarians.

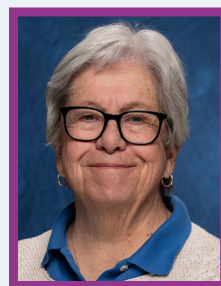
60-Year Jubilarians



**Sister
Roswitha
Frawley**



**Sister
Marilyn
Gooley**



**Sister
Mary Pat
Naumes**



**Sister
Marcia
Frideger**



**Sister
Alanna
Lechner**



**Sister
Linda
Riggers**



**Sister
Makiko
Fujiwara**



**Sister
Miriam
Malone**



**Sister
Janine
Rocheleau**



**Sister
Linda Rose
Fuselier**



**Sister
Judith
Mayer**



**Sister
Carole
Strawn**

Why They Give The Garvey Family

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.

Giving back has always been central to the Garvey family's values. When Kathleen "Kitty" Kent and Michael Garvey married in 1969, they raised their children Patrick, Daniel, and Brigid with the belief that abundance carries a responsibility to help others. That lesson is now being passed down to their seven grandchildren.

Mike had a lifelong admiration for the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary and their mission. Though Mike passed away in 2020, the Garveys remain deeply committed to supporting those in need.

Kitty's connection to the Sisters began when she met Mike while a student at Mount Saint Mary's University in Los Angeles. Mike's sister, Helen Garvey, had joined the order in 1955 and was teaching at St. Monica's High School. Over the years, the family followed Sister Helen's ministry work supporting farmworker families in California and schools in Chiapas, Mexico, and Ciudad Sandino, Nicaragua. Today, Sister Helen is retired and resides with other Sisters in Saratoga, CA. These experiences allowed the family to witness firsthand the Sisters' brilliance, dedication and impact in education and community service.

"Their enduring drive and dedication to doing good around the world is inspiring," says their son Daniel. Patrick adds, "The best part of supporting the Sisters is knowing their work creates real, meaningful change. It's a continuation of the values our father taught us, helping others and never taking what we have for granted."

In keeping with their commitment to giving back, the Garveys have supported projects to build a preschool in Lesotho, construct a covered classroom in Nicaragua and provide tuition subsidies for students from preschool through high school. Brigid notes that the family's tradition of giving extends from local communities to global efforts, and supporting SNJM allows them to honor that legacy.

For the Garveys, supporting the Sisters of the Holy Names is more than philanthropy—it is a continuation of a family legacy that fosters generosity, compassion and tangible impact across generations. As Kitty reflects, "Just as others stepped up to provide opportunities for us, we aim to pay those gifts forward, continuing Mike's legacy and supporting the transformative work of the Sisters." ■



(Top) Kitty Garvey (right) with children Patrick, Daniel and Brigid.

(Bottom) Kitty Garvey (center) with her grandchildren.

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.



Sister Permelia Weaver, SNJM

(Sister Alice Margaret)

May 20, 1932 – August 13, 2025

Sister Permelia "Alice" Weaver departed this life in Lake Oswego, OR after 71 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Barbara Boudreau, SNJM

(Sister Augustine Mary)

January 31, 1943 – November 8, 2025

Sister Barbara Boudreau departed this life in Saratoga, CA after 62 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Frances Kearney, SNJM

(Sister Thomas Joseph)

December 19, 1939 – August 19, 2025

Sister Frances "Fran" Kearney departed this life in Saratoga, CA after 64 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Mary Frederick Coyne, SNJM

July 6, 1933 – November 21, 2025

Sister Mary Frederick Coyne departed this life in Albany, NY after 72 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Rosemarie Kasper, SNJM

(Sister Mary Agneda)

October 20, 1924 – August 27, 2025

Sister Rosemarie "Rosie" Kasper departed this life in Lake Oswego, OR after 81 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Cathy Beckley, SNJM

May 25, 1947 – November 21, 2025

Sister Cathy Beckley departed this life in Lake Oswego, OR after 51 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Ann Gilchrist, SNJM

(Sister M. Charles Robert)

August 27, 1943 – September 25, 2025

Sister Ann Gilchrist departed this life in Los Gatos, CA after 57 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Thérèse Ottman, SNJM

(Sister Gertrudis Mary)

January 21, 1925 – November 26, 2025

Sister Thérèse Ottman departed this life in Saratoga, CA after 81 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Ann Marean, SNJM

(Sister John Vincent)

February 7, 1934 – November 1, 2025

Sister Ann Marean departed this life in Rockville, MD after 71 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Mary C. Bertoli, SNJM

(Sister Mary Zita)

June 7, 1931 – December 11, 2025

Sister Mary Bertoli departed this life in Lake Oswego, OR after 73 years as a Holy Names Sister.

For extended obituaries,
please visit our website at snjmusontario.org/about-us/obits.

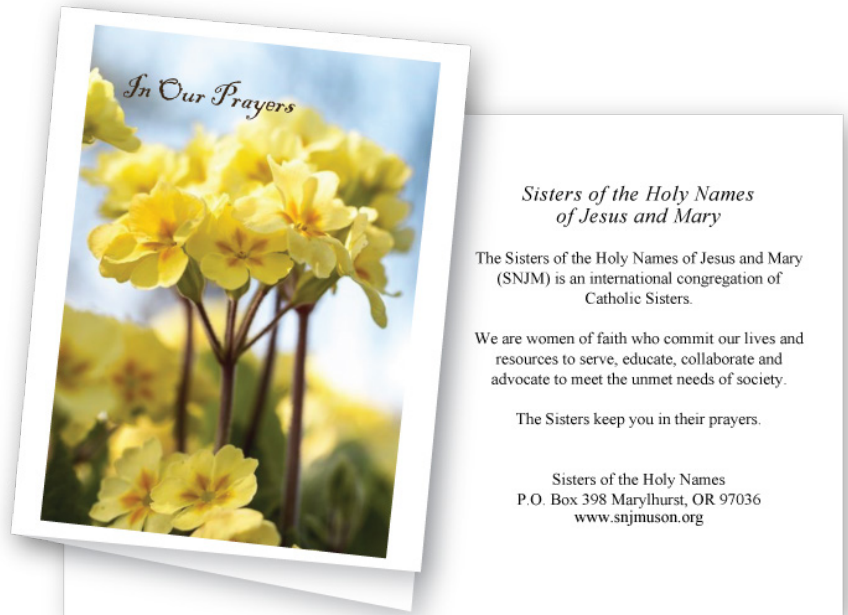
Send a Gift of Prayer

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.



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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A Community Forged in Fire

At 8:30 p.m. on June 30, 1992, a fire broke out on the fourth floor of the Sisters of Mercy Mother House in Albany, New York. The Mother House's infirmary housed 74 Sisters, half of whom were bedridden, wheelchair-bound or living with dementia. The fire quickly grew out of control, reaching the highest level of emergency. As the Sisters were safely evacuated, more than 50 city firefighters and numerous volunteers from the surrounding communities were deployed to attack the blaze. The building was rendered uninhabitable due to fire, water and smoke damage.

Finding shelter for the displaced Sisters was imperative. Able-bodied Sisters could relocate to Mercy convents in the surrounding area, but other Sisters from the infirmary needed more immediate support. SNJM's New York Provincial Leader Kathleen Griffin, SNJM, learned of the situation and reached out to help. By 11 p.m. that evening, occupancy at SNJM's Holy Names Convent on New Scotland Road had nearly doubled after the arrival of 27 Sisters of Mercy. Rooms and offices were hastily vacated to make room for the new residents.

"One of the Sisters of Mercy told me she would never forget the Sisters of the Holy Names waiting to greet them with flowers," recalled Helen Hurley, SNJM (1913–2005).

*"It is wonderful to see
the coming together, the
helping of one another."*

—Melanie Rose Barrett,
SNJM (1924–1999)

For the next two years, a joint community was formed at 1061 New Scotland Road, with the convent serving as the infirmary for both congregations. It took some adjustment as the two groups created a new reality. "It's a major lifestyle shift for all of us, and we have to work together," noted Pat Brennan, SNJM (1937–2002). Daily house meetings, joint feast days and jubilees, and ongoing communication between SNJM and Mercy leadership and staff created connection and friendship.

On November 6, 1994, Mass was held in the convent chapel to send forth the Mercy Sisters and a few SNJMs who were moving into the newly-constructed Our Lady of Mercy Life Center at 634 New Scotland Road. The blessing refrain was: "You are ever a part of our lives: all the good you have shared will live on in our hearts." That connection continues today as several SNJMs in the Albany area still live in facilities owned or started by the Sisters of Mercy.



SNJM Provincial House main entrance, Albany, NY, c.1974