

Building a

Legacy of Hope



Mercy Greenbrae (right), the new affordable housing community at Marylhurst Commons is named for a nearby garden and picnic area once enjoyed by Marylhurst students (shown above). In 1931, Sister Mary Leonella Bolt created the space to cultivate the wild flora of Oregon for plant botany.



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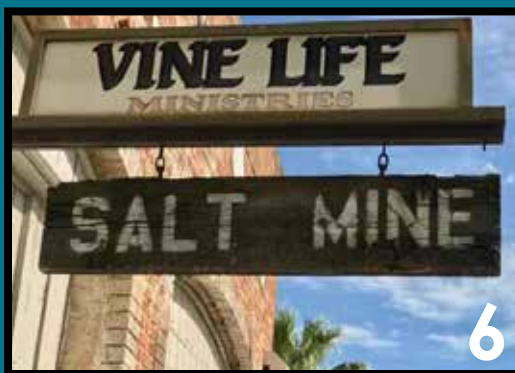
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Letter from SNJM Province Leadership Team

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

Dear Friends,

Sisters of the Holy Names have built a legacy of hope that stands strong as we continue our work in 2024. Over many decades of collaborative ministry, we have found that what we are capable of—the questions we can answer and the needs we can meet—grows exponentially when we work together. As our founder Mother Marie-Rose said, “As we walk along the same path let us extend a hand to one another.”

This issue of SNJM Now focuses on the good news from Sisters of the Holy Names who have found success collaborating with our communities to meet the needs of the times. In Ontario, Canada, ministry work at Angela Rose House and Oak House supports refugees creating new beginnings in Canada. In Seattle, Washington, Sisters

collaborate with St. Vincent de Paul on their programs to provide safe shelter and food security to vulnerable members of the community. As we collaborate across the U.S., Canada and beyond, our ministry of service is alive and well.

In Oregon, our partnership with Mercy Housing, Carlton Hart Architects and Walsh Construction has led to the opening of the Mercy Greenbrae affordable housing project. SNJM’s commitment to care for the earth guided us to provide funding so Greenbrae could be built to the standards of Passive House, a rigorous level of energy efficient development. It’s a project that needed to be done, but it’s also a project we could never have done alone. As we celebrate the recent successes of the SNJM Congregation, we know that, together, we rise to meet the needs of the times.

Maureen Delaney SNJM *Diane Enos SNJM*

Marcia Frideger, SNJM *Carol Higgins, SNJM*

Linda Patrick SNJM *Mary Slater SNJM*

Affordable Housing Finds a Home

Mercy Greenbrae at Marylhurst Commons

Facing the future site of Mercy Greenbrae, Sisters of the Holy Names stood up, extended their hands and joined Sister Linda Patrick in a blessing for the land.

“God, we thank you for the wonder and beauty of this land. We bless it now and into the future. Fill it with community, laughter, love and all good things. Amen.”

—Sister Linda Patrick

Sisters and community leaders spoke at the November 2023 groundbreaking ceremony for the affordable housing project, celebrating the fruitful collaboration that led to plans for the first secured affordable multi-family housing ever to be constructed in Lake Oswego, Oregon. Speakers shared their dreams for the project—dreams coming true 18

months later as people move into Mercy Greenbrae at Marylhurst Commons.

When Marylhurst University closed in 2018, the campus reverted to the Sisters of the Holy Names. The looming question, what could be done with this beautiful campus to help meet a need? Guided by their core value of service to the community, the Sisters discerned their next steps.

Over the following months, members of the SNJM Provincial Leadership Team met in focus groups with Sisters, community members and Marylhurst University alumni and former staff. The passion and excitement this process generated wasn't a surprise—people cared about the health of their community and recognized the great opportunity at hand. Leadership team member Sister Maureen Delaney said, “Many people had lots of ideas of what could happen on this campus. But one theme kept coming up in every group.

SNJM Sisters bless the land near the future site of Mercy Greenbrae.





The people said, ‘Housing. We need housing. We need housing for people with fewer financial resources.’”

The need has been growing in the Lake Oswego area and across Oregon for years. The 2005 final report from Lake Oswego’s Affordable Housing Task Force established the official need for more housing development, but formal recommendations for action were never realized. A 2022 report from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development determined that Oregon has a supply gap of 140,000 homes to meet the needs of the state’s population.

With the core community need of housing identified, SNJM’s leadership team established a partnership with Mercy Housing, an organization founded in 1981 by six religious communities to address the needs of low-income families. Creating over 48,000 homes since their founding, including residences for over 5,000 people in Washington and California, the Marylhurst property would be their first development in Oregon.

In line with the values of Mercy and SNJM, construction on the 100 units of affordable housing began with a

focus on sustainable development. Mercy Greenbrae will use 40% less energy than a conventional building and will be fully electric, not relying on any fossil fuels for heating. But the work is not done when the building is complete.

“It’s not just the home. We also use housing as a platform,” explained Mercy’s Director of Resident Services Katie Parker on an episode of SNJM’s “Women on a Mission” podcast. Residents of the new building have access to health and wellness services as well as tutoring programs. About Mercy’s work to support residents, Sister Linda Patrick said, “Their profound commitment to providing a warm and welcoming home for individuals and families permeates and guides all they do.”

The journey that led the Sisters to Mercy Greenbrae affirms their commitment to service. Residents moving into Greenbrae are bringing new life to the Marylhurst campus. As Sister Linda’s blessing acknowledged, new residents now share in the wonder and beauty of the land. ■

(Left) Greenbrae’s front door and view of campus.

(Upper Right) Sisters participate in a hard hat tour during construction.

(Lower Right) Sister Maureen Delaney visits with sustainable development consultants.

Ministry in Action

Serving the Margins

In this issue we are spotlighting ministries and initiatives dedicated to social justice outreach. Below we highlight the profound impact of Angela Rose House and Oak House, an embodiment of the SNJM commitment to providing shelter and support for refugees in need, sponsored by the U.S.-Ontario Province since 2008. Alongside this remarkable ministry, we share insights into five impactful programs that have recently received SNJM Ministry Grant funding. Our Ministry Grants extend financial support to organizations across Canada, the U.S. and beyond. Each grant is a testament to the dedication of Sisters and Associates whose passions align with the Charism, Chapter Acts and Corporate Stands of the SNJM community.

(Top) Residents of Angela Rose House enjoy a Christmas meal.

(Bottom) Sister Grace Diaz (middle) with two Family Promise of the Capital Region youth.

Angela Rose House and Oak House: Windsor, Ontario

In Canada lies a beacon of hope and refuge in the form of Angela Rose

House and Oak House. These sanctuaries in Windsor, Ontario, are not just shelters, but havens where over 320 refugees from 43 countries and five continents have found solace, support and new beginnings. Individuals fleeing war, injustice and persecution discover a community of compassion as they learn about Canada and navigate the governmental systems to become residents. “For us, it matters how much love and care we give them,” shared Ilda Demir, coordinator of the homes, on an episode of SNJM’s “Women on a Mission” podcast.

Family Promise of the Capital Region: Albany, NY

Family Promise of the Capital Region provides shelter for homeless families and those at risk of becoming homeless. The program supports those families as they work toward permanent housing and employment. Sister Grace Diaz says, “One thing I love about Family Promise is that it keeps the families together, unlike other programs that separate the dads from the mothers and children. Homeless families from the area can have their children continue in their same schools. They even find care for pets, so families can be reunited once they have ‘graduated’ to their own homes.”

St. Vincent de Paul, St. Matthew Conference: Seattle, WA

In the heart of Seattle, where dense housing is prevalent, the St. Matthew Conference of St. Vincent de Paul is a resource for those facing economic hardship. As apartment complexes that include low-income housing multiply, so do the requests for assistance from individuals grappling with the impact of job loss and an inflationary economy. The St. Matthew Conference offers





person-to-person service to all in need, regardless of circumstances. As Sister Teresa Shields shares, “We give direct service, but we also give a listening ear.” The conference’s commitment to its mission ensures that the most vulnerable members of the community receive the support and compassion they deserve.

Vine Life Ministries – The Salt Mine Program: Lincoln, CA

With a multifaceted approach to outreach, The Salt Mine program offers a range of support to individuals and families facing hardship. Through their shower and laundry facilities, they not only meet basic hygiene needs, but also affirm the worth and dignity of the local homeless population by offering them a place of refuge. Salt Mine’s food pantry serves approximately 13,000 people per month. SNJM Associate Stephanie Friedrich says “By taking care of our marginalized in society, we get to treat human beings with dignity, honor and respect.” Aligned with the SNJM core values of dedication to justice, commitment to liberating action and hospitality, Salt Mine strives to be a catalyst for positive change in the community.

Shelters for Hope: Sonoyta, Mexico

In the desert of Mexico, where temperatures soar and hope often feels like a mirage, there exists a place of compassion, Shelters For Hope.



Founded by individuals whose goal was simply to do their part in helping migrants and refugees, Shelters for Hope provides support to those at the U.S.-Mexico border. Sister Sharon Francis says, “Why do I support Shelters of Hope? Because their focus on people in need of asylum lifts my spirit... in a way that I feel I am contributing and extending our foundress’s and our community’s vision and charisma.” Offering food, clothing, showers, basic medical care and a safe place to rest, Shelters for Hope is committed to upholding the inherent dignity of every individual.

Pastoral da Criança (Children’s Pastoral): Brazil

“Mother Marie-Rose believed that educating women could promote transformations in society. I also believe that working with mothers can bring life with more abundance for their children,” shares Sister Agnes Hoy. Children’s Pastoral in Southern Brazil extends this vision by walking alongside mothers and their children, right in the comfort of their homes. Dedicated volunteers who are part of the community make regular visits to families, offering guidance, encouragement and practical resources to foster healthier lifestyles. Central to their efforts are food baskets, provided to encourage families to participate in monthly family meetings, where they facilitate discussions, share resources and build a network of support. ■



(Top Left) St. Matthew Conference “Lunches of Love” ready to be distributed to those without cooking facilities.

(Top Middle) Associate Stephanie Friedrich displays the fresh linens and clothing available at the Salt Mine’s shower facility.

(Top Right) The Shelters of Hope building provides a welcome sight for migrants and refugees.

(Bottom Right) The Children’s Pastoral logo is familiar to many families across Brazil.

Celebrating Jubilarians

This Summer, we celebrate women who professed their vows 25, 50 and 60 years ago. You can read their biographies by visiting www.snjmusontario.org/jubilarians

60-Year "Senior" Jubilarians

50-Year "Golden" Jubilarian



Sister Cathy Beckley



Sister Mary E. Tracy



Sister Barbara A. Bray



Sister Mary Breiling



Sister Sally Brown



Sister Anne Burgard



Sister Cynthia Canning



Sister Carolyn Coleman



Sister Maureen Delaney



Sister Catherine Ferguson



Sister Lolita Krebsbach



Sister Mimi Maloney



Sister Patricia McCrann



Sister Patricia Pfenning



Sister Vivian Ripp



Sister Mary Ellen Robinson



Sister Rosmary Thielman



Sister Terese Tsang



Sister Sue Woodruff

25-Year "Silver" Jubilarians



Sister Ana María Vilca Mamani

Why They Give: Partners in Mission

Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret)

We know people have many reasons for being our Partners in Mission. We will tell a donor's story in each issue of SNJM Now. If you'd like to share your story, contact us at development@snjmuson.org.

You will often see Colonel Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret), "Col. Mary" as she is affectionately addressed, at Marylhurst College alumnae gatherings especially those of the class of 1969. She graduated with a degree in Spanish/Secondary Education from Marylhurst and later earned her master's degree from Central Michigan University. A group of her Marylhurst classmates still gathers regularly as these friendships mean so much. "We appreciate each other more now than we did when we were in college. We value our friendships more now," says Mary.

"I was in awe at the level of accomplishment of the nuns. They had studied at places like Cambridge and the Sorbonne...they held master's degrees, PhDs and that was not typical at the time. These women were my role models," Mary said.

"It never occurred to me that I couldn't do anything that I decided to do. They cared about me and wanted me to succeed. They encouraged and challenged me."

Mary's first work experience was as a classroom teacher, which she enjoyed. However, in 1972, she answered the call for something more and joined the United States Air Force as a second lieutenant. Serving for more than 30 years in a variety of intelligence, personnel policy, administration, program management and

special assignment positions in the U.S. and overseas, she retired from the Air Force as a Colonel in 2002. She earned many major military awards including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal and Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters.

Retirement didn't slow her down, she continued to serve in other ways such as a four-year gubernatorial appointment to the Advisory Committee to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs and as a Commissioner on the Oregon Governor's Commission on Senior Services. She is also a passionate supporter of the Portland Columbia Symphony Orchestra and the American Association of University Women.

With all these accomplishments, Col. Mary remains a humble, servant leader and true-blue "Marylhurst College Girl." ■



(Above) Col. Mary J. Mayer's Air Force photo.



(Left) Col. Mary at a 2023 donor event.

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 Suzanne Malette, SNJM
(Sister M. Claire-Michele)
December 9, 1944 –
August 9, 2023

Sister Suzanne Malette, SNJM departed this life in Windsor, ON, Canada after 66 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Lorean Whiteman, SNJM
(Sister Imelda Rose)
July 30, 1937 – November 10, 2023

Sister Lorean Whiteman, SNJM departed this life in Albany, NY after 65 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Francis Rose Klos, SNJM
(Barbara Ellen Klos)
October 12, 1931 –
February 10, 2024

Sister Francis Rose Klos, SNJM departed this life in San Jose, CA after 71 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Mary Margaret Mulgrew, SNJM
(Sister Miriam Anita)
March 20, 1943 –
September 5, 2023

Sister Mary Margaret Mulgrew, SNJM departed this life in Saratoga, CA after 59 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Shirley Roberg, SNJM
(Sister Armella Marie)
March 27, 1943 –
November 18, 2023

Sister Shirley Roberg, SNJM departed this life in Spokane, WA after 57 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Joan Christine Von Bank, SNJM
(Dora Darlene Von Bank)
December 4, 1932 –
February 19, 2024

Sister Joan Christine Von Bank, SNJM departed this life in Spokane, WA after 67 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Thérèse Diane Ladouceur, SNJM
(Sister M. Rose Suzanne)
March 10, 1941 –
September 17, 2023

Sister Thérèse Diane Ladouceur, SNJM departed this life in Windsor, ON, Canada after 62 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Wanda Marie Jordan, SNJM
(Donna Jordan)
June 17, 1934 – December 30, 2023

Sister Wanda Marie Jordan, SNJM departed this life in Lake Oswego, OR after 68 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Mary Anne Jungblut, SNJM
(Sister Geraldine Mary)
March 7, 1939 – March 27, 2024

Sister Mary Anne Jungblut, SNJM departed this life in Lake Oswego, OR after 64 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Mary Courtman, SNJM
(Sister Charles Marie)
May 16, 1922 – October 9, 2023

Sister Mary Courtman, SNJM departed this life in Lake Oswego, OR after 81 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Mary Ann Rawson, SNJM
(Sister M. Rose-Clare)
June 13, 1941 – January 17, 2024

Sister Mary Ann Rawson, SNJM departed this life in Tualatin, OR after 57 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Judy Bertoli, SNJM
(Sister Thea Mary)
August 12, 1932 – March 29, 2024

Sister Judy Bertoli, SNJM departed this life in Lake Oswego, OR after 69 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Jacquelyn (Jackie) Slater, SNJM
(Sister Magdalena Mary)
February 19, 1932 –
January 23, 2024

Sister Jacquelyn (Jackie) Slater, SNJM departed this life in Saratoga, CA after 71 years as a Holy Names Sister.



Sister Rose Christina Momm, SNJM
November 15, 1935 –
May 16, 2024

Sister Rose Christina Momm, SNJM departed this life in Albany, NY after 69 years as a Holy Names Sister.

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 Affiliates. 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 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 _____

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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P.O. Box 398
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Assembly 2024

In April 2024 Sisters and Affiliates of the SNJM U.S.-Ontario Province gathered for a celebration of community and an opportunity to pray together and share on topics relevant to our lives. We honored the unique geographical regions where we live and serve, both in the past and present. We discussed our common focus and current challenges and explored how God is calling us into the ever-evolving future.

The Enduring Journey for Affordable Housing

Fair access to quality, affordable housing is not just a contemporary problem. Sixty years ago on March 7, 1,500 demonstrators filled the Westlake Mall in downtown Seattle to support open housing regulations. At the time, restrictive neighborhood covenants and open discrimination of minorities by real estate agents and landlords were the norm. An ordinance to eliminate housing discrimination was on the ballot for March 9, 1964.

Among the diverse crowd were two SNJMs in full habit. One was Sister Constance Jergens, principal of Immaculate High School in Seattle's Central District. The Central District was home to the majority of Seattle's Asian and Black residents, and 27% of Immaculate's population were students of color. With a strong focus on Catholic social teaching, Immaculate had a long and proud tradition of social activism and multiculturalism from the 1960s until its closure in 1981.



Credit MOHAI, Seattle Post-Intelligencer Collection, 1986.5.5935.5, photo by Harvey Davis

Despite the turnout at the demonstration and support from progressive groups and religious organizations, the legislation was defeated by a two-to-one margin. Housing discrimination remained legal in Seattle until 1968.