

Your Generosity

Our Service



Sisters Frances Kendrick, SNJM and Catherine Ferguson, SNJM prepare beds for a family arriving to new temporary housing.

Inside:

What More Can We Do p.2

**Unlocking the Secrets
of the Past** p.4

Call to Vietnam p.6

And more!

What More Can WE Do?



Sisters of the Holy Names find ways to care for the homeless, immigrants and refugees, and families in need. Here are some of their stories.



Top: Sisters Mary Ondreyco (second from left) and Mary Becker (far right) helped serve dinner at Nazareth House in El Paso, TX.

Middle: Sisters Mary and Mary also helped prepare the food they served.

Bottom: Ann Dibble, SNJM Associate, supported families in El Paso as they seek asylum in the United States.

At the Border

When a call came looking for volunteers, especially Spanish-speaking Sisters, to help greet migrants crossing the border in Texas, Sisters Mary Becker and Mary Ondreyco raised their hands. They journeyed from California to El Paso, where they stayed with the Sisters of Loretto and worked at Nazareth House.

Each day, when immigrants and asylum seekers are released from detention centers, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) buses bring them to locations like Nazareth

House, which welcomes about 50 new arrivals each day. Guests are given food, clothing, a hot shower and a place to sleep. All the guests carry documents from ICE that allow them to travel legally and have a hearing date – usually within two weeks – when they need to appear in a federal court as part of the asylum process. At that hearing, depending on the judge, they could be allowed to continue the asylum process or they might be deported.

Volunteers like Sisters Mary and Mary assisted with a variety of tasks, from helping with intake to preparing and serving dinner to sorting clothes. Both feel grateful that they had an opportunity to meet the brave families who fled violence and poverty in their home

countries to start a new life in the U.S., bringing with them inner strength, hope and a desire to live in peace and to work and support their families.

SNJM Associate Ann Dibble went to El Paso a few weeks after Sisters Mary and Mary, helping to care for refugees until they can connect with family or friends.

Caring for the Homeless

When St. Joseph's Parish in Spokane, WA, decided to participate in Family Promise, which supports families at risk of becoming homeless, the parish agreed to host a homeless family for a week at a time. When the parish started providing meals and overnight accommodations to guests, Holy Names Sisters looked for ways that they could support this need. Sisters Frances Kendrick, Catherine Ferguson and Karen Conlin helped to assemble cots and make beds so that the new arrivals would feel welcome.

Using Resources Well

When the Sisters' convent in Albany, NY was built in 1961, it was designed to house Sisters from entry in the community until entry to eternal life. It also provided classroom space for elementary-age students of the Academy of the Holy Names Albany until its lower school closed a few years ago. As the nature of religious life

changed, Sisters moved out of the convent and into the communities where they served. As the community considered what to do with the building, a local nonprofit lost its facility due to a water main break and needed a new location to continue providing household goods and books to families in need. The Sisters welcomed Grassroots Givers into the former elementary school, providing a way to fill needs in the community while the organization looks for a new location closer to the families and schools it supports.

This year, as the Holy Names Sisters say goodbye to this building that has meant so much, there is great pride in knowing that it is serving the community until the end. ■



Sisters Catherine Ferguson, Karen Conlin and Frances Kendrick in the room they prepared for a family who will be staying at St. Joseph's parish in Spokane, WA.

Sister Bea Hall with items to be distributed by Grassroots Givers, including clothing carefully sorted by size and all kinds of household goods.



An Ongoing Commitment to the Homeless and Immigrants and Refugees

In 2018, the Sisters' U.S.-Ontario Province Leadership Team established the Immigrant & Refugee Fund to support the work of Sisters, in partnership with other nonprofit organizations, to address the many needs of people coping with displacement. Individual donors are invited to partner with us by supporting our ministry programs or the SNJM Immigrant and Refugee Fund, ensuring that the Sisters will have financial resources to help those who are trying to make a new life for their families.

Unlocking the SECRETS of the Past:

The SNJM Heritage Center



This page, clockwise from top right:

The SNJM archives are housed at the Holy Names Heritage Center in Lake Oswego, OR, built in 2007 thanks to generous donors.

Sister Miriam Theresa Gleason, SNJM, shown here prior to her entry into religious life in 1916, was a pioneer in the labor rights movement.

The class of 1937 at Academy of the Holy Names in Rome, NY.

Gabriella (circa 1934) a resident of the Christie School (Lake Oswego, OR).

Sister Marilyn Harris, SNJM with former student George Nakata from the St. Paul Miki School (Portland), 70 years after she was his teacher.

A phone call: "Hello? I'm looking for a copy of my high school transcript. I graduated in 1956 from St. Mary's High School in The Dalles."

An email: "We have an adoption certificate for my grandmother from 1877 signed by one of the Sisters at St. Mary's Academy in Portland. Do you have any further information?"

At the door: "My late mother-in-law had these scrapbooks about her student years at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Oakland. Do you want them?"

Another email: "I'm writing a book about the history of Windsor, Ontario and need a photo of St. Mary's Academy."

Those are just a few of the thousands of requests received over the past 13 years by

Sarah Cantor, Director of the SNJM Heritage Center and Archives.



More than 300 people contact the archives each year. Five staff and a few steady volunteers connect researchers with information about Holy Names schools, individual Sisters and their own family histories.

The SNJM collections, dating from the Sisters' arrival in Oregon in 1859, include administrative records of the Sisters in the U.S. provinces, school and student information, and files for each deceased Sister. They also include paintings, furniture, school memorabilia and other items that help tell the Sisters' story.

Requests come from many directions. Often, schools with an SNJM connection reach out when they are celebrating a milestone, looking for photos, names of founding Sisters and principals, and historical highlights about school life. One Oregon parish wanted a list of all Sisters who had taught in the school over its 100+ year history in order to create a panel paying tribute to SNJM service in their community.

Common inquiries from professors and historians concern labor rights activist Sister

Miriam Theresa Gleason and the Sisters' role in the landmark Pierce v. Society of Sisters Supreme Court decision in 1925.

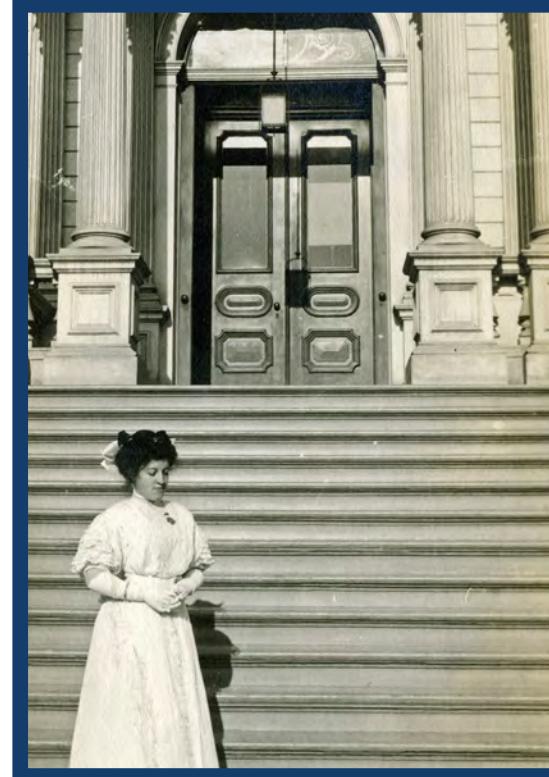
Another frequent request is for information about former teachers. Alums often want to thank or learn more about a teacher who made a difference in their lives. One man called wanting the burial location of a Sister who taught him in elementary school during the 1940s so he could send flowers to her grave. When he learned that Sister was in her 90s and very much alive and well, he was thrilled. When Sister was contacted to see about connecting her with a former student, there was a long pause and then she asked, "Who thought I was dead?" After hearing the response, she replied, "I remember THAT kid." Seventy odd years later, he was still making an impression.

Another time, a family was looking for a photo of their mother's alma mater, the Academy of the Holy Names in Rome, NY. She had graduated in 1937 and lamented the loss of her class ring. Using a photo found in the archives, family members had a duplicate made and later sent the archives staff a touching video of their

mother receiving her ring.

Some of the most meaningful requests relate to the Christie School, an orphanage the Sisters operated in Oregon from 1908 until the 1960s. More than once, family members have told Sarah that photos of Christie residents from the SNJM archives were the first images they had ever seen of their mothers or grandmothers as children. And once, the archives staff found data in the files to help a woman track down half siblings she never knew she had.

While not all inquiries lead to such dramatic conclusions, it is rewarding to see that the information safeguarded in the Sisters' archives can provide answers that make a difference in someone's life. Whether that means pride in a school's long history, the chance to thank a Sister who influenced a person's development, solving a genealogical puzzle or replacing a lost class ring, the archives' staff stands ready to help. ■



Mae Smith, class of 1906, Convent of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (Oakland, CA). Photo courtesy of Jim and Judy Morton.

SNJM Water Project Update

Sister Barbara Spears (far right) traveled to Brazil on behalf of the SNJM Water Project last fall. With training and materials from Water With Blessings, she delivered 15 filters and taught local women to use and care for them. Each filter can provide enough clean water for four families with children for at least 10 years. Your donations to the SNJM Water Project will underwrite the direct costs of helping God's thirsty children around the world have access to clean water.



A Call to VIETNAM

O

ne of the most thoroughly intercultural U.S.-Ontario Province ministries is A Call to Vietnam.

Initiated in 2001 and co-directed by Sisters Kay Burton and Agnes Le, the program supports the ministries of a Vietnamese congregation, Lovers of the Holy Cross of Hue. Donated funds provide

scholarships to carefully selected students, augment outreach ministries to the poor and marginalized in Vietnam, and support a summer English program for younger Sisters. Holy Names Sisters and other volunteers have

traveled to Vietnam each summer to teach English, with the intention of ultimately enabling some Sisters from Hue to study in the United States and become proficient English speakers and teachers.

One hoped-for outcome of the collaborative ministry is

SNJM Sisters Mary Ellen Robinson, Anne Herkenrath and Makiko Fujiwara welcome LHC Sisters Kim Dung and My Dung to Seattle.

During study breaks Sister Kathleen Hilton, SNJM, has helped My Dung and Kim Dung experience the beautiful Northwest and U.S. culture.

Studying in the Heritage University Library.

empowering Lovers of the Holy Cross to sustain their own English conversation program. This effort has borne fruit as several young Sisters from past summer English classes are now students in the United States. Sister Dung Nguyen (My Dung) and Sister Dung Huynh (Kim Dung) are jointly sponsored by Heritage University in Toppenish, WA and by the U.S.-Ontario Province. They live with members of the SNJM community and are enrolled at Heritage University, earning masters' degrees in Educational Administration and English Language and Literature respectively.

Both are diligent, successful students, taking full advantage of all available opportunities to master both conversational English and coursework that will enrich their Congregation's vibrant ministries. English is important for the congregation's preschool/kindergarten curriculum as a unique offering that enhances their ability to recruit and enroll students. This is critical because preschools are one of the few revenue-generating ministries they are permitted to conduct. As a future principal, My Dung looks forward to introducing new instructional methods to her faculty. Kim Dung will meet other English language needs of her Congregation as a teacher and translator.

Understandably, being full-time graduate students absorbs most of their time, but both also have had opportunities to meet Sisters and Associates in various Northwest locations, become familiar with multiple aspects of U.S. culture, and explore some scenic highlights of the region. Engaging and adventurous, they bring a contagious spark to gatherings and have deepened the intercultural bonds which continue to characterize all aspects of the A Call to Vietnam Ministry. ■



A CENTURY of Ministry

What's in a hundred years? Sister Frances Harold (Karen Mary) celebrated her 100th birthday in March and is about to celebrate 80 years as a Holy Names Sister.

Growing up in Portland, OR, the inspiration of her parents shaped her life. She reveled in her father's stories about his teen years during the Alaska gold rush. His resilience and resourcefulness impressed her, and her mother's deep faith and generosity informed young Frances for a lifetime.

Her sisters, Mary Jane (Angel Guardian) and Anne (Rosilda), joined the community before Frances. It was the charism of Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, foundress of the Sisters of the Holy Names, which compelled Frances to enter.

She began as a music teacher, working not only on children's musical skills but on their love of music and its enrichment of the human heart. She was one of the first to attend the Institute for Spirituality and Worship at Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. Sister Frances enjoyed 10 years in parish religious education in Canby, OR, followed by ministry in St. Helens, OR. The addition of youth ministry caused her to reflect: "These kids want skiing and beach trips and I am nearly 70. It's time for someone else to take over."

Retirement from parish work did not mean an end to her ministry, though. Sister Frances agreed to introduce the Retirement for Religious program to parishes. With companion Sister Andre Campau, SSMO, she crisscrossed Oregon promoting the fund drive in support of religious communities.

During the next 11 years, she was continually struck by the generosity of the Catholic people

when they understood that Sisters who have served in education and health care do not receive retirement benefits from the Church, and their Congregations' struggle to support retired Sisters.

When she read a parish bulletin ad for a communion minister for the local hospital, Sister Frances thought, "I can do this. I can give a couple of hours a week." She volunteered there for 17 years, retiring at age 90.

Looking back, she cannot choose one ministry as her favorite. "I just loved all those things I did," she says. She still finds ways to volunteer, including helping to stuff envelopes for the SNJM Christmas appeal.

Although Sister Frances is shy of the spotlight as she passes her milestone birthday, she is grateful for God's special gift of 100 years of living, the abundance she has experienced and the continual generosity of family and friends. ■



Sister Frances with great niece Mary Frances at the 100th birthday celebration.

Sister Frances helped stuff the annual Christmas appeal in December, 2018.

The Nguyen family, who know Sister Frances from her days of ministry in Canby, OR, at her birthday celebration.



Above: Sister Patricia Anne Corbey presenting an SNJM ministry grant to Nick's Place.

Right: Sister Luke Marie Capling

Below: Sister Virginia Dunn



In Memory

Sister Patricia Anne Corbey, SNJM

Dec. 11, 1954 – April 21, 2019

Sister Pat Corbey, SNJM departed this life on April 21, 2019 at her home in Silver Spring, Maryland.

She was a graduate of the Academy of the Holy Names in Silver Spring, MD. She practiced as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker while also serving on the Board of Trustees of the Holy Names academies in Silver Spring and Tampa, FL, the St. Jude Foundation of the Archdiocese of Washington DC, and Nick's Place, Beltsville (photo shows Sister Pat presenting an SNJM ministry grant to Nick's Place).

Sister Pat celebrated 64 years of life and 33 years of her religious profession.



Sister Luke Marie Capling, SNJM (Florence Anne)

March 22, 1928 – Nov. 29, 2018

Sister Luke Marie Capling, SNJM departed this life on Nov. 29, 2018 at St. Joseph Provincial House in Latham, NY.

As a nurse, Sister Luke served in the novitiate in Rome, NY, as infirmarian at the Academy of the Holy Names in Albany, and as campus nurse at the Academy of the Holy Names in Tampa, FL. She aided in the care and health planning decisions of hundreds of Sisters.

Sister Luke Marie celebrated 90 years of life and 62 years of her religious profession.

Sister Virginia Dunn, SNJM (Ellen Dorothy)

July 7, 1934 – Dec. 27, 2018

Sister Virginia Dunn, SNJM departed this life on Dec. 27, 2018 at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany, NY.

Sister Virginia was an alumna of the Academy of the Holy Names in Rome, NY. Her years of ministry included teaching and/or serving as principal in parish schools in Washington DC, Liverpool and Delmar, NY and at the Holy Names academies in Albany and Tampa, FL. She served as provincial director of the New York Province from 1981-1987. Her last "official" ministry was as Coordinator of Liturgy at Annunciation parish in Washington, DC.

Sister Virginia celebrated 84 years of life and 66 years of her religious profession.

Sister Mary Winifred Solomon, SNJM (Nellie Solomon)

April 25, 1922 – Oct. 4, 2018

Sister Mary Winifred Solomon, SNJM departed this life on Oct. 4, 2018 at Memorial Hospital in Tampa, FL.

Sister Mary Winifred celebrated 96 years of life and 75 years of her religious profession, most of them as an educator in Florida.



Year-Long Celebration of 150 Years in California

On May 10, 2019, the sesquicentennial celebration of SNJM ministry in California came to a close. The year-long commemoration began on May 10, 2018, the 150th anniversary of day that six brave young women from Montreal arrived in the state. The 150 years of Holy Names ministry in California were celebrated with Mass, receptions, service and even a song about the Sisters of the Holy Names

lovingly written and performed by Mark Lennon.

The Sisters are grateful for all who participated in the celebrations to "Remember, Rejoice and Renew!" To see more photos or listen to the Sisters of the Holy Names song, visit www.snjmcal50.org/rejoice (the song was featured at the Santa Monica celebration). ■



Clockwise from top left:

Sisters and Associates gathered outside St. Monica Church (Santa Monica, CA) prior to the February 2 Mass and reception.

Sisters Kathryn (middle) and Mary (right) Ondreyco greeted friends at the October 6 reception at the Cathedral of Christ the Light (Oakland, CA).

Students at the Ramona Convent Secondary School (Alhambra, CA) created wine glass charms as gifts for reception attendees.

Sisters and alumni from St. Mark's School (Venice, CA) reunited during the Southern California celebration on February 2.

Sister musicians and choral groups from Holy Names High School and Holy Names University provided music for the Eucharistic Celebration at the Cathedral of Christ the Light on October 6.





St. Joseph's Chapel in the former New York Provincial House will host the closing ritual. "The Donors and their dear ones" who helped build the chapel and Provincial House will be especially remembered.



Saying goodbye to the former New York Provincial House

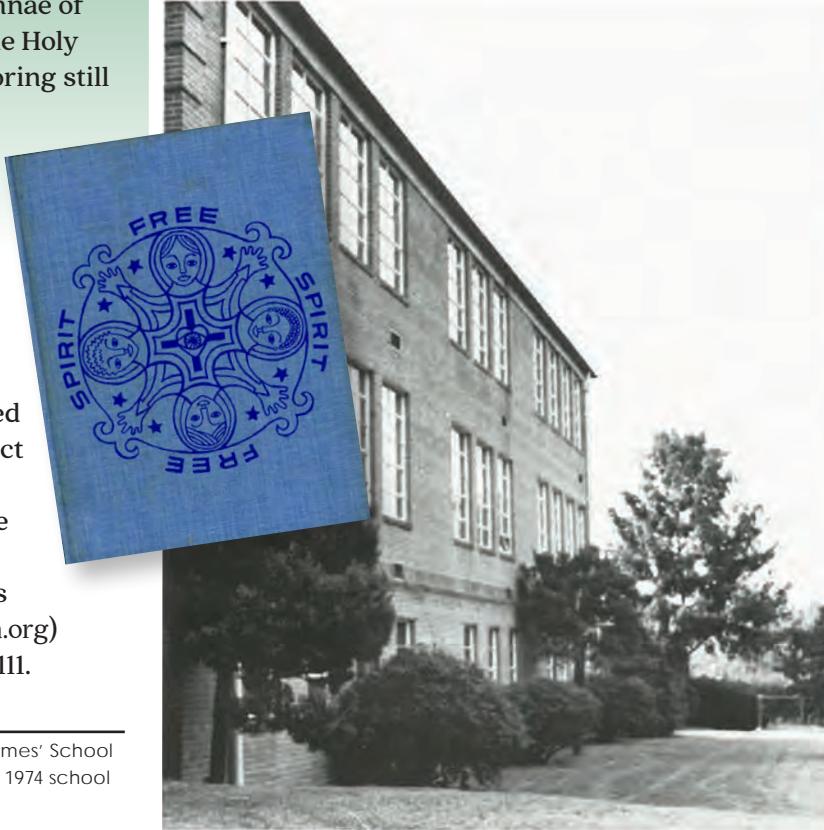
On June 8, 2019, Sisters, Affiliates, family and friends will gather for a closing ritual in St. Joseph's Chapel at the former New York Provincial House. After prayerful discernment, the community has decided that the costs of renovating the building so that it can be used for another purpose are too significant. They are lovingly seeking homes for artifacts such as lockers, crucifixes and green Italian marble. During the summer of 2019, the building will be taken down and the property returned to green space. ■

Somewhere, There's a School with Spirit

We know the alumnae of the Academy of the Holy Names in Silver Spring still have a lot of spirit!

The next All-School Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019. Registration will open in July.

If you are interested in helping to contact your classmates or helping with the reunion, please email Sarah Harris (sharris@snjmuson.org) or call (503) 675-7111.



Academy of the Holy Names' School Song as it appears in the 1974 school yearbook.

Somewhere there's a school with spirit;
Somewhere holding dreams within it.
Somewhere, yes somewhere, it's called Holy Names.
Somewhere there are doors to be opened;
Somewhere there are paths to pursue.
Meeting people and cherishing friendships,
Only then will our happiness be true.
Remember years we've left behind us;
Look to the long years yet to come,
Always remember who has guided us.
And stand by A.H.N.
Side by side, and heart to heart,
Her proud standards we'll uphold.
We'll defend her from the start,
We'll always do our part,
'Neath the blue and gold.
Our school is a school with spirit;
Our school holding dreams within it;
Our school, yes our school,
Our dear Holy Names.

WHY THEY GIVE: Partners in Mission

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@snjmusa.org.

By S. Mary Ann Farley, SNJM

For 35 years, Kay Foster was the beloved, competent, always trusted director of nursing at Convent of the Holy Names in Spokane, WA, retiring only when the last Sister moved to the retirement community now known as South Hill Village. She is a faithful member of Assumption Parish and an active and happy grandma. Kay and her husband Chuck have been monthly donors to the Sisters of the Holy Names for 39 years! When asked "Why?" the words just flowed from Kay.

"We give because of our personal relationships with the Sisters. We give because of who they are, what is important to them. In so many end-of-life conversations with the Sisters in the Care Center, I have heard why they chose religious life, what joy they have found, the fulfillment they feel and pass on."

"I just received the Jubilee announcement and smile as I remember interactions with the Sisters who are celebrating, and rejoice in who they are and how they live in the world. I resonate with your stance on refugees and immigration because that is close to my heart and I want that work to continue. I want to see the

ripple effect of the work the Sisters are doing become an ever-wider circle because I believe that makes a major difference in our world."

Chuck and Kay talk about how and where they want to donate when they receive so many requests and there is so much need. "We believe in consistently donating to or sponsoring organizations where we see the boots on the ground and know the hearts of the people."

Chuck and Kay, it is with deep gratitude that we tell your story. The sharing of hearts and minds and resources makes exponentially more possible than any of us could do alone. The ripples continue! ■



Among her many experiences as a nurse in the Sisters' Care Center, Kay (far right) helped Sister Jeanne Concannon (RIP), wearing pink, learn to use donated equipment that helped lift her to a standing position. Next to Sister Jeanne is author Sister Mary Anne Farley, wearing black and white.

Kay and Chuck Foster during a 2018 visit to Lourdes, France.



Sisters of the Holy Names
P.O. Box 398
Marylhurst, OR 97036

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Marylhurst, OR
Permit No. 8

Prefer an email subscription?

Email development@snjmuson.org with your request and the email address you would like to use for your **SNJM Now** newsletter.



Among the Holy Names Sisters who are celebrating 60 years of religious life in 2019:

Adjacent: Sister Mary Ann Farley (in blue) volunteers at the Maybelle Center for Community in Portland, OR, an organization that reduces loneliness and isolation among members experiencing poverty, mental or physical challenges, addiction or trauma. She is one of 19 Holy Names Sisters celebrating 60 years of religious life in 2019.

Left: Sister Eileen Dunn is part of 96-year tradition of Holy Names Sisters ministering at St. Gabriel parish in Washington, DC. She has served as Director of Religious Education since August 1989.

Acknowledgements

SNJM Now is a publication of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, PO Box 398, Marylhurst, OR 97036. We gratefully acknowledge contributions by writers Sarah Cantor, Adrianna Carr, Mary Ann Farley, SNJM, Sarah Harris, Kathleen Hilton, SNJM, Mary Ondreyco, SNJM and Carole Strawn, SNJM; photographers Don Hamilton and Lucas Pelton; and graphic designer Blynda Barnett. For more information, contact (503) 675-7100 or development@snjmuson.org.

© 2019 Sisters of the Holy Names, all rights reserved.