

Alive

WITH THE CALL OF THE GOSPEL

School
Sisters
of  St. Francis

Transforming Lives
Around the World

Neighborhood Socials
Make a Global Impact

Sisters Ministering
Far From Home

A Half-Century of
Gospel Values

Easter Evening

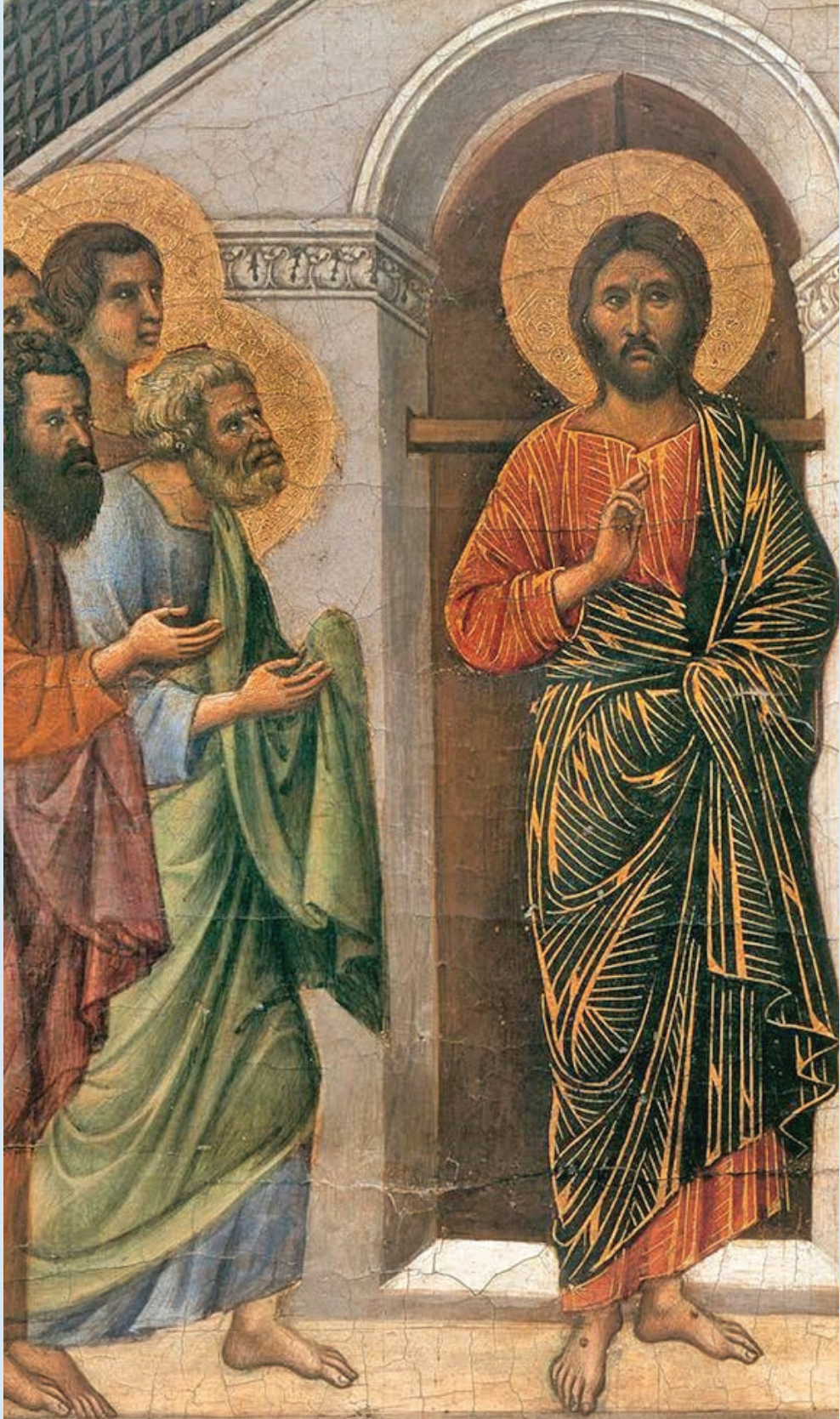
At any other time
Jesus would have knocked,
listened for *Come in*,
and left again
if he heard no *Welcome*.

But not tonight!
Tonight no doors or walls
were strong enough
to keep him out.
He'd earned the right
to come on over to their side
where they were locked in terror.

He stood before them now
in risen robes—
a pillar of fire leading them
across the desert of their fears,
a beacon in the stormy sea
of their floundering—
and revealed to them
the promised land: himself.

*Peace, he said.
Touch my hands and feet.
Take courage. It is I!*

—SISTER IRENE ZIMMERMAN



Excerpt from *Where God is at Home: Poems of God's Word and World*, by Sister Irene Zimmerman, which was awarded the 2020 Illuminations Book Awards Bronze Medal for poetry. The book may be ordered online from the publisher, ACTA Publications, at www.actapublications.com. Use the code "SSSF" when ordering from ACTA and receive a 10% discount on your entire order. The School Sisters of St. Francis will also receive a donation for 20% of your order.

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FRONT COVER
The School Sisters of St. Francis believe that
every child has a right to an education,
regardless of gender, class, or religion.
We nurture their growth in reverence,
knowledge, and social sensitivity, and help
students develop in their consciousness
of human dignity.

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From Our Leadership

On our team's recent visits to the missions in South India, we saw many examples of how you, our partners in ministry, are enabling our sisters to enter into the lives and needs of the people we serve!

In Checkanurani, an impoverished village in Tamil Nadu, the sisters provide a quality education to children in St. Francis Elementary School. They also teach classes at St. Francis Commercial School to help adults find work as tailors or secretaries, or to pursue higher education by attaining word processing skills.

Also in Tamil Nadu, Sisters Nirmala and Tresa Jose work in a home for single adults and families with HIV/AIDS. In stark contrast to the rejection these people have faced from society, our sisters offer their patients respect and compassion. We had the honor of serving a meal to the people who live there (right).



At St. Mary's School in Pulissery, we celebrated the students' achievement in regional language contests and the school's recognition for overall achievement. We also were amazed when Sister Shandy, the principal, showed us the amount of rice it takes to feed the school's 1,300 children every day.

The sisters who teach at Assisi School in Kanjikode are known for helping families who need assistance to meet basic needs or address family issues. This mission also offers a clinic where Sisters Mercy Mathew and Rosila provide patients with kindness and compassion, along with excellent medical attention.

Throughout our travels, we experienced the impact of climate change with extremes of weather. In Kerala, many of our missions have benefitted from projects that emphasize water harvesting that can help minimize the effects of the dry times. You can read about these and more life-changing projects in this issue of *Alive* magazine.

Our sisters in South India are truly alive with the Gospel! We are so proud of the ministries of all our sisters, and it is through the support you give that we can continue this work. May God bless and reward you for your generosity.

Sisters Mary, Tresa Abraham, Barbara, and Lucy

International Leadership Team
School Sisters of St. Francis

Two Franciscan Lights in the Wisconsin North Woods

God's graces are manifold on Native American reservation

In viewing old, black-and-white photographs of our sisters heading off to missions, one cannot help wondering about their excitement or trepidation about settling into a world beyond their experience.

In more recent decades, photographing such sendoffs was not routine, so there is no visual record of two of our sisters who set off in the 1960s to bring their talents and enthusiasm to St. Francis Solanus Indian School in the small town of Reserve (population 429).

Yet, it is evident in newspaper reports and testimonies of town citizens that for more than 50 years, the Gospel has been made alive in the hands of Sister Felissa Zander and Sister Maryrose Theobald. Their graced life is the fruit of their labors on behalf of the Ojibwe (also called "Chippewa") people.

The School Sisters of St. Francis established our mission in Reserve in 1885. Some of our sisters dedicated the greater part of their lives to the people of Lac Courtes Oreilles Ojibwe reservation, as Sister Felissa and Sister Maryrose have done and continue to do.

Side by side, they carry out all that is needed to sustain the parish, school, and the general well-being of the townspeople. Theirs is the only Catholic school in rural Sawyer County, and it

SSSF PHOTOS



Sister Felissa Zander with the Gift of the Eagle Feather.

has remained tuition free. Their blessed vows could not be lived more sincerely.

"We are of service 24/7," said Sister Felissa. When she was awakened at 3 a.m. by a young boy reporting that someone had been crushed under a car in a rollover accident, the sisters came to assist. When a troubled young woman parked her furniture and luggage at their doorstep, saying she needed to get to her aunt in Hayward 15 miles away, the sisters packed their 1984 pickup truck and drove her. They admit there are social service agencies available for emergencies, but they do not hesitate to offer their own compassion and practical aid.

Incidents like these punctuate their regular schedule of administrating the K-8 school; teaching year-round evening and weekend catechism; daily maintaining the parish gift shop loaded with hand-crafted Ojibwe souvenirs and religious articles; playing the piano and organ at several Masses in area churches each Sunday; and paying weekly visits to people who are homebound. There are also special fundraising events to organize, school plays to prepare...the list goes on. In the midst of this busy-ness, the sisters always make time to pray.



Sister Maryrose Theobald with a child in Reserve in the 1970s.

“When a new seventh grade student asked, ‘Why do you pray so much?’ I answered, ‘We don’t pray enough!’ We teach them that our whole day has to be a prayer,” Sister Felissa said.

That diligence starts at 5:40 a.m., when she and Sister Maryrose enter chapel to pray before heading off to school for 8:00 a.m. prayer with the children. There are also grace before meals; Masses on Mondays and Wednesdays; Saturday afternoon Mass; Sunday Masses at 10:00 a.m. and noon; additional Masses when substituting as organist for other churches; Holy Hour every Sunday afternoon; and quiet prayer after suppers.

These sisters are like two brightly colored skeins knitted into an Ojibwe prayer sash. They have embraced the culture and instructed the children to recite prayers in Ojibwe, as well as to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha, the first Native American saint.

“We pray to St. Kateri in a special way each day,” Sister Felissa said. “I’ve even written two short plays about her. One is about a miracle that took place after her intercession. It was performed after Communion at Mass on her feast day. Another was performed for the Diocese of Superior celebration of her canonization in 2012.



Sister Maryrose with a more recent group of students.

“We also began a St. Kateri Tekakwitha Circle, which meets once a month, and we pray a Holy Hour with special prayers for the sick.”

Sister Felissa has faithfully attended the annual National Tekakwitha Conference since 1984, and shares that experience by encouraging students and adults to join her. Sister also learned to dance Ojibwe and taught the students, who have accepted invitations diocesan-wide to share their tribal pride.

Now an “honorary Ojibwe,” Sister Maryrose has been named *Manidos Gitijenikwe* (“The Creator’s Keeper of the Gardens”). Sister Felissa has been bestowed with two names: *Mandakwe* (“Wonder Woman”) and jokingly “Many Moons” for her refusal to tell the children how old she is.

The richness of life in Reserve has transcended these sisters’ early expectations from 50-plus years ago. These Franciscan lights beam, “We love what we do. We are alive!”



Your financial support enables our sisters to help children reach their God-given potential. We invite you to make a gift today using the enclosed envelope, or make a secure gift online at www.sssf.org.



The new nurse call and wander management system lets sisters at Sacred Heart participate fully in community life, including daily Mass.

The Comforts of Home

Grant from SOAR! brings peace of mind to sisters at Sacred Heart

Our retired sisters treasure the opportunities to age in place with dignity, and to continue to pray and be present with their sisters in community. A generous grant from SOAR!—Support Our Aging Religious enables our sisters at Sacred Heart in Milwaukee to do that, thanks to an updated nurse call and wander management system.

“A secure environment is crucial to the sisters and the caregivers who administer to them,” explains Cathleen Kelling, Sacred Heart’s executive director. “With our new nurse call and wander management systems, we are able to achieve that.

“The nurse call system allows the sisters to readily summon nursing assistance with the press of a button,” Kelling said. “Nursing staff seamlessly receive and can acknowledge and respond to the call, ensuring a timely response to the sister’s needs.

“The wander management system keeps sisters who are at risk of wandering safe,” Kelling continued. “Sisters who have cognitive impairment issues can be easily monitored by wearing a wireless device. It allows them to move freely in the care area, for a homelike environment.”

Kelling said that Sacred Heart’s old systems had become antiquated, which made it difficult to find replacement parts when repairs were needed. She said the new systems made possible by the SOAR! grant have increased security and reliability.

This is just the outcome that SOAR! envisioned in awarding the grant for these systems, said Sister Kathleen Lunsmann, IHM, the president of Washington, D.C.-based SOAR!

“It makes me happy to know that a SOAR! grant not only helps a congregation purchase something they need, but also helps contribute to enriching community life,” Sister Kathleen said. “The benefactors of SOAR! often tell me, ‘I wouldn’t be the person I am today without the love and encouragement of the sisters.’ It makes our benefactors happy and fulfilled to know they contribute to grants that improve the lives of the sisters and their communities.

“Community is our call as sisters—it’s where we give and get support and share our prayer life,” Sister Kathleen said. “I’m glad that the SOAR! grant is making that happen for the School Sisters of St. Francis.”

Widening the Circle of Care

Support from The Catholic Community Foundation expands services to women

In the five years since the School Sisters of St. Francis became founding members of the Benedict Center Sisters Program South Collaborative, this faith-based partnership has helped hundreds of women in the sex trade, including women victimized by sex trafficking, on Milwaukee's south side to gain the skills and support they need to live safer, healthier lives.

The Catholic Community Foundation joined us in partnership with two generous grants that strengthen the ministry of Sisters Program South. The foundation supports effective philanthropy in Southeastern Wisconsin in four focus areas: education; leadership development; health care for the under-served in Milwaukee; and community-building to strengthen families, parishes and those suffering from poverty, discrimination, and violence.

"Our board of directors feels the Sisters Program South initiative is a worthy program to support and fits within the grant priorities of the foundation," said Mary Ellen Markowski, President of The Catholic Community Foundation. "The foundation supports many organizations within the ten counties of southeastern Wisconsin, having awarded over \$10 million in grants since our inception. These charitable organizations, and their programs that fit within our four priorities, are an important

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POVERTY.”

part of enhancing the mission of The Catholic Community Foundation.”

“The Benedict Center is grateful to be in collaboration with the School Sisters of St. Francis and seven other faith partners to serve women on Milwaukee's near south side,” said Jeanne Geraci, executive director of the Benedict Center. “We extend our gratitude to The Catholic Community Foundation for supporting the collaborative's efforts to help women who are struggling to survive in the same neighborhood as St. Joseph Center.

“With funding from The Catholic Community Foundation, we are able to expand staff to include a full-time counselor, a full-time sexual assault advocate, a full-time Drop-In Center coordinator, and support 50 percent of the cost of the street outreach specialists, the program director, and the program assistant,” Geraci said. “The work of Sisters Program South is ‘people work,’ so the staff of the program are critical to building relationships of trust, creating a space for women to begin a journey to heal, and advocating for them as they navigate forward.”

Geraci said that last year, staff ministered to 171 individual women at the Sisters Program South Drop-In Center, including 41 women who took shelter at night, using the Sisters Warming Room.

“What has been most encouraging to the team at Sisters Program South is the compassionate support from the faith community that recognizes that women in the street-based sex trade are highly victimized by violence and poverty,” Geraci concluded. “With support and resources, these women can transform their lives.”

Transformative Possibilities

Fund enables sisters to support youth and adults in spirituality and healing

The School Sisters of St. Francis seek out opportunities to provide assistance to those in need. It's an integral part of living the Gospel as a woman religious.

Through the congregation's appropriately named Living the Gospel Fund, our sisters may submit a proposal to receive a grant of up to \$5,000 to support their ministries. Thanks to generous contributions from our donors, in 2019, grants were awarded to the ministries of Sisters Donna Marie Preston, Jane Marie Bradish, and Elaine Hirschenberger. Their proposals were deemed the best match for the congregation's goals at this time by the U.S. Provincial Leadership Team.

Sister Jane Marie, a teacher and campus minister at Pius XI Catholic High School in Milwaukee, received assistance to give 34 students partial scholarships to attend a retreat. "Approximately two-thirds of our student body attend our school on a voucher program or with significant financial aid awards," Sister Jane Marie said in her grant report. "The students are extremely grateful for the retreat scholarships."

Sister Donna Preston received funds for education and advocacy to end human trafficking. Additional funds were used to help immigrants obtain needed services, learn about business opportunities, and increase their participation in the political process, Sister Donna said. "In addition, we invited youth to share their immigration journey at an event sponsored by Sisters and Brothers of Immigrants in Chicago.

"The other half of the grant was designated for dramatic performances of *The True Cost: Stories*

WOMANSPACE PHOTO



Funding supported a healing retreat for women who have survived domestic violence.

of Human Trafficking to support Illinois Women Against Human Trafficking."

Sister Elaine, the executive director of Womanspace, was grateful to send 10 women who have survived domestic abuse to a healing weekend with trauma counselors, reiki therapists, and yoga instructors.

"Womanspace in Rockford, Illinois, has partnered with the Rockford Mayor's Office of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Prevention to provide services and programming for the Voices Committee, whose work will eventually contribute to the development of a new Family Peace Center," Sister Elaine said. She emphasized the need to witness to others: "During times when people have seen the worst in humankind, it is necessary in moving forward, to see the best in others."

Gifts That Keep Giving

Be a Gift Foundation bestows “exceptional” blessings

In recent years, our sisters’ missions in India have been offering thanksgiving for prayers that have been answered by Be a Gift Foundation.

The private philanthropic organization first provided a much-needed air conditioner for the St. Francis Province office in Bhopal. Then, the foundation funded a laptop computer that allows the clinic and medicine dispensary in Goreghat to consult with other doctors online.

Most recently, the Arizona-based foundation funded bicycles that enable young women who live at the Prakash Bhavan formation house in Narsinghpur to commute to school as they complete their postulancy in preparation to become religious sisters.

“Walking to school takes one hour each way,” said Young Kim, Director of Major Gifts and Foundation Grants. “Bicycling cuts that to 20 minutes each way, giving time for homework and formation.”

“We do not usually grant requests for international purposes or to overseas charities,” explained Elaine Donovan, secretary/treasurer and a member of the Be a Gift Foundation’s board. “But we made an exception for the School Sisters of St. Francis’ Catholic mission. Our foundation was founded on Catholic values. St. John Paul II wrote that to be created in the image and likeness of God means to be a gift to others.”

This principle is the very inspiration for the foundation, which most often grants funding to individuals for rent, transportation, and utilities. However, as Elaine explained, “We also grant

requests to organizations when we feel the gifts will help them further their mission of helping those in need.”

“This generous gift is helping these young women to complete their training as they prepare for lives of service to others and to be joyful witnesses of Christ in the world,” said Sister Tresa Abraham Kizhakeparambil, Vice President of our international congregation.

“We could not make a forever difference to the people we serve without partners like Be a Gift Foundation,” said Pam Mueller, Director of the International Office of Mission Advancement. “Their generosity helps transform countless lives.”

“Our gift to the sisters will grow and keep giving,” Elaine said. “It will be paid forward in so many ways.”

SSSF PHOTO



For the young women at the Prakash Bhavan formation house who are preparing to become sisters, new bicycles are a much faster way to get to their classes.



Sisters Deepa, Sunita, Agnes, Ann Paul, and Joselin from our two Indian provinces are serving in various ministries in Milwaukee.

Sisters Helping Sisters

Sisters from India joyfully minister interculturally in the United States

Five sisters from India recently arrived in Milwaukee to lend their youthful energy and support for the ministry needs of sisters in the United States Province.

Sisters Joselin Gabriel, Deepa Thayyil, and Sunita Armo are helping with the nursing needs of the retired sisters at Sacred Heart and Maria Linden Independent and Assisted Living Apartments. Sister Ann Paul Chittakattukuzhiyil helps with bookkeeping and accounting services in the International Finance Office, and Sister Agnes Kuruveetil is the new sacristan for St. Joseph Chapel.

Transitioning to ministry in an entirely new culture and context has its challenges, the sisters say, especially adjusting to new food and the lifestyle and language differences. Most of the sisters from the St. Francis Province in North India speak Hindi; sisters from Assisi Province in South India speak Malayalam; and Sister Joselin

was born in a small village in Tamil Nadu in South India, where Tamil is the spoken language.

“When I first entered the convent, I found that most of the candidates spoke Malayalam because most of them came from the state of Kerala,” Sister Joselin said. “So besides English, I had to learn a third language to communicate with them.”

Sister Deepa, who came from a small city in Kerala, studied Hindi and English in grades four through ten. “All our courses beyond the tenth grade were taught in English, but the meaning of some words and the different English pronunciations in the United States continue to be a challenge for me,” Sister Deepa said.

Most of the young women in India who enter the convent join after twelfth grade. After six months as candidates, they begin their formation program as aspirants and move on to become

postulants for one year. Then they enter a two-year novitiate. After their first profession of vows, the sisters generally begin a one- to two-year regency program where they gain experience in some type of community work such as caring for the destitute elderly or helping with housekeeping tasks, gardening, or sacristy work.

After their regency, the young women begin formal education for a specific ministry such as nursing, teaching, social work, or commerce. “After my first profession, I taught kindergarten at Raisen School,” Sister Sunita explained. “But after one year of teaching, I decided that it was not my calling, so I began studies to become a Registered Nurse.”

After tenth grade, Sister Agnes completed two more years of study in Hindi. “I took a two-year teacher-training course where all my classes were taught in Hindi,” she said. “When I entered the convent at age 19, I began working toward bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Hindi. I then taught Hindi at Assisi School for 15 years.”

During the last seven years at Assisi School, Sister Agnes also opened Assisi Women’s College for destitute girls and served there as principal. The school, which offers a bachelor’s degree in commerce, grew from eight to 200 students, enabling the girls to move out of a life of poverty.

Prayerful Discernment

Coming to the United States was not an easy decision for the sisters. A lot of prayer was needed to discern this call. Sister Ann Paul admitted she had a hard time taking on a ministry so far away from home.

Their new ministries in Milwaukee have given Sisters Ann Paul and Sunita (above) their first experience with snow.

For Sister Agnes (right), serving as sacristan of St. Joseph Chapel is a vocational dream come true.



MICHAEL O'LOUGHLIN PHOTOS



"After our Provincial asked me to pray about it, I found a passage from John's Gospel (John 15:16): 'You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last.' I was then sure it was God's will for me to accept the appointment," she said.

Unlike the initial reluctance of most of the sisters to come to the United States, Sister Agnes was elated at the opportunity.

"Ever since I saw St. Joseph Chapel on my first visit to the United States in 2014, I've been so in awe of its stunning beauty that I prayed to Mother Alexia to allow me to serve there as sacristan someday," Sister Agnes said. "Incredibly, my dream actually came true in January, when I was offered the role as sacristan for the chapel!"

When Sister Joselin arrived in Milwaukee in March 2017, she was rewarded with a lovely snowfall. "It was my first experience of snow," she said. Sister Joselin and Sister Deepa both are now happily enjoying their nursing ministry at Sacred Heart. "I love my work with the sisters," Sister Deepa said. "They are all so very friendly and appreciative of my care for them."

Sister Ann Paul said that although it has been a challenge to learn all their names, "it has been a blessing for me to live with the sisters at the Motherhouse. I really enjoy their company at meals, playing cards together, and sharing stories about the past." Sister's perpetual smile is an indication of her delight about working in the finance office, where she has been learning to navigate the software used for bookkeeping and accounting with the mentoring support of Finance Director Dan Tretow and accountant Scott Bunke.

"The experience of living with the sisters at the Motherhouse has been a wonderful blessing," agreed Sister Sunita. "I worried about how I would be accepted in the United States, but all the sisters at the Motherhouse and Maria Linden are so kind and generous, I really don't miss my family that much. The sisters are my family now."

Your financial support of our congregation helps to prepare young women for ministry around the world. We invite you to make a gift today using the enclosed envelope, or make a secure gift online at www.sssf.org.



Sister Ann Paul is receiving mentoring on accounting practices from Dan Tretow, who directs the congregation's International Finance Office.





Sisters and visitors enjoy the Sister Water Beer Garden on the St. Joseph Center grounds.

Making a Pint-Sized Difference

Beer garden profits fund critical water projects

When the School Sisters of St. Francis were searching for a location for their Milwaukee convent in 1886, they selected a site that had been home to a German beer garden in Greenfield, just outside the Milwaukee city limits.

If a stein-hoisting Rip van Winkle had awakened last summer in his old haunts on Layton Boulevard, he might have felt right at home when he ventured onto the St. Joseph Center grounds. That's because our sisters took a page from their history books and turned it into a thoroughly modern German-inspired fundraiser.

The Sister Water Beer Garden series, held one Saturday a month from June through August, was hosted on the motherhouse grounds by our International Office of Mission Advancement. It came about after the office's advisory board and a think tank of young adults brainstormed ways to help introduce our sisters and their ministries to new audiences.

"This series of events was created to engage our longtime friends and benefactors while building relationships with younger patrons and new partners," said Deb Ruesch, Mission Advancement gift officer and event specialist.

Following in the footsteps of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, the sisters named the beer garden after "Sister Water," the embodiment of purity in St. Francis' "Canticle of the Creatures." In the spirit of Francis' and Clare's emphasis on hospitality and care for the Earth, the proceeds from the beer gardens were designated to help provide access to clean water for people around the world who are served by our sisters' ministries.

The event planning team connected with a local brewer, Sprecher Brewing Company, which offered two specially crafted beers: "Ale Mary," an India Pale Ale, and "Glory Be," a Vienna-style lager. They also made connections with local food

vendors and other sponsors, including Klement's Sausage, General Capital Management, Inc., and TriCity National Bank. Additional local vendors joined as sponsors throughout the summer and musicians waived or reduced their fees to perform at the events.

Days before the first event, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* ran a feature article about the beer garden, pointing out that "Beer gardens might be the Milwaukee way to have a pint in the outdoors, but this new one takes that in a wholly different direction."

The novelty of women religious hosting a beer garden and the catchy names of the craft beers sparked local and then nationwide media attention. As a result, attendance at the first beer garden in June exceeded all expectations, with hundreds of people filling the grounds. The momentum continued in July and August with a mention in *Readers Digest*, social media buzz, and especially through word of mouth.

"Folks enjoyed being with our sisters and learning about our congregation and its mission," Ruesch said. "They knew that their involvement provides clean water to thousands of women, children and men."

Attendees received a commemorative pint glass with their first beverage purchase, whether that was a beer or a root beer. Food options included a charcuterie plate, a bratwurst sandwich, and hot pretzels. Each event also included outdoor games, which were popular with all ages.

"This point-of-entry community event was created to cultivate individual relationships, especially with younger generations," said Pam Mueller, director of Mission Advancement. "All the events ran very smoothly. More than 1,500 people in total attended, with our largest attendance coming in July."



Kathleen and Rory play Jenga at last summer's beer garden.

Planting Seeds in the Garden

Young professionals Rory and Kathleen are recent transplants from Boston and were unfamiliar with our congregation's work. When they read about the Sister Water Beer Garden, they were curious and decided to attend. They enjoyed it so much that they visited all three of the summer gatherings.

"We are impressed that the sisters are partnering with a local brewery and food vendors," Kathleen said. "That connection to the wider community is important to us."

"We came back because it's a good time and we are supportive of the clean water cause," Rory said. "As we've talked with people, we've gotten to know more about the sisters and what they do and where they work."

Since their first visit last June, Kathleen and Rory returned to St. Joseph Center for the Pancake Breakfast and Fall Festival as well as outreach events. We are confident that the connections made last summer with new friends like Rory and Kathleen will continue to bear fruit for many years to come.



“The revenue results surpassed our \$10,000 financial goal, raising more than \$16,000,” Mueller continued. “This allowed the International Team to meet the needs of all of our sisters’ requests for support of our global clean water ministries in 2019!”

Thousands of the people served by our sisters around the world are the beneficiaries of these funds. They included

- School children in India who receive clean water from a rain harvest and filtering system
- Families in Peru who now use a simple bucket filter system to make contaminated urban water clean and drinkable
- Families served by our mission in Songea, Tanzania, who now can access clean water, thanks to a new borewell
- Grade school and high school age girls who live in our hostel in India, who otherwise have limited access to toilet and shower facilities

Sisters Kathy Chuston and Mary Ann Meyer staffed an information booth at each event where they distributed information cards about the water projects and answered questions about religious life and our sisters’ ministries. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn and connect in a fun and relaxing atmosphere.

“We hope to see many familiar faces as well as new ones at this summer’s events,” Mueller said. “It’s a fun time for a wonderful cause because the funds raised enable our sisters to make a forever difference in the lives of the people they serve.”



Top: A child in Tanzania enjoys clean water. Center: A boy in India uses a water filter at his school. Bottom: Sisters Kathy Chuston and Mary Ann Meyer at the information booth at the beer garden last summer.



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June 13 • July 11 • August 8

5 - 8 p.m.

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