



HANDMAIDS OF THE
SACRED HEART OF JESUS,
USA PROVINCE

REPORT ON PHILANTHROPIC GIVING

2013-2014



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Sacred Heart of Jesus,
USA Province
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610-642-5715
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We regret an error that occurred in the compilation of the 2012-2013 Annual Report of Philanthropic Giving. A contribution made by Crystal and G. Wesley Kuehnle, Jr. was not reflected in the Annual Fund listing. We deeply apologize for this unfortunate inaccuracy, and thank them for their generosity.

On the Cover - Top left corner: Hands belonging to Lisa Vanni, AAA faculty member and Project Fiat volunteer, embrace the hand of an unnamed woman. *(Photo courtesy of Brynn Conroy, AAA '09 and Project Fiat volunteer)*

Lower portion, clockwise from top left: Sister Cecilia Tong at her 50th Jubilee, Eucharistic Consecration; Sisters Oanh Vo, Lyan Tri, and Uyen-Chi Dang; Sister Ruth Held and Bishop Robert P. Maginnis; Sisters Dorothy Beck and Philomena Monte; Sister Maureen Gillespie.

Antonia Romano
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Dear Friends,

Political upheaval. Chance meetings. A life-changing experience. Sounds like the stuff of a thrilling novel. But as you'll read in the pages of this Annual Report, it's the legacy of St. Raphaela Mary's love of the Eucharist continually at work, transforming lives, overcoming challenges, and nurturing friendships.

Unlike Presidents of countries, famous athletes and celebrities, most of us don't give much thought to the legacy we'll be leaving behind. We're all too busy just trying to get through the day! Needless to say, St. Raphaela Mary's legacy would have been the farthest thing from her mind. She lived a quiet life of prayer and contemplation. Yet her impact has been felt across oceans and continents for 137 years. It has inspired generations of Handmaid Sisters and the many people who have been touched by their mission.

I have had the tremendous fortune to know the Handmaids through their good works and service at the Saint Raphaela Center, at Ancillae-Assumpta Academy, and in the oft-forgotten communities where they are bringing so much hope, compassion, and knowledge.

My "formal" relationship with the Handmaids has come to a close after six years on the Development Advisory Board, the last three as Board Chair. What wonderful people I have served with and met along the way. I thank you on behalf of all these tireless servants for your support of the Handmaid communities this past year and hope you will continue to help them sustain and build their legacy in the years to come. I leave you with these hopeful words from St. Raphaela's Psalm of Confidence:

Let us abandon all into God's hands,
Peacefully, serenely, and with great confidence.

With thanks,

Anita M. Alvaré
Chair, Development Advisory Board
Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
USA Province

UNITED STATES PROVINCE

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HANDMAIDS OF THE
SACRED HEART OF JESUS,
UNITED STATES PROVINCE

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From the Provincial Superior



August, 2014

Dear Friends,

There are four "L" words that I hope will resonate with you as you browse through the pages of this Annual Report. The words are Legacy, Loyalty, Laity, and Love. Individually, each represents something quite unique. But when understood in the context of a unified theme, I think their connectedness becomes obvious. For me, the contents of this publication summarize the essence of those four words and underscore their importance and significance to the Handmaids.

This year, our USA Province was blessed with a beautiful opportunity to share our legacy through an event that was hosted by our Handmaid Province Advisory Board and the Ancillae-Assumpta Academy Parents' Association. *The Legacy Gala* surpassed anything I could ever imagine. More than 500 guests — friends from fifty years ago, alumni from our schools (AAA and ADA), and current and alumni school parents joined our sisters for an extraordinary evening at the Hyatt at the Bellevue in Philadelphia. It truly was a night to remember!

Throughout the year, we saw the outpouring of generosity and support from so many of you. Your life-giving spirit of volunteerism, your attendance at our liturgies and gatherings, and your participation in our ministries and programs helped to affirm the loyal partnership we continue to experience with you. We, as Handmaids, continue to be able to further our work because of your collaboration and generosity.

As I have stated before, please know that the energizing spirit that comes from you and the encouragement we feel from you, cannot be printed with words, but are deeply held in our hearts. Thank you for your loyal and loving friendship.

With gratitude, hope and love,

Sister Dorothy Beck acj

Sister Dorothy Beck, acj
Provincial Superior

Across the Globe...

Handmaids in the News



Marco Augusto Duenas, holding his son, looks on as Sister Inmaculada offers Pope Francis a hand carved, wooden statue of the Handmaid foundress.

Sister Inmaculada Fukasawa, Superior General of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, presented Pope Francis with a wooden replica of the statue of Saint Raphaela Mary that sits outside of the Vatican. Both were carved by the sculptor, Marco Augusto Duenas whose idea it was to create the gift for the Pontiff. As he accepted the gift in St. Peter's Square, the Pope exchanged warm greetings with Sr. Inmaculada and shared his advice: *"Do not ever give*

up Eucharistic Adoration. It is the source." He echoed the same advice as he walked through the crowd and took notice of the other Handmaids who had come to be a part of the audience. The sisters were pleased to have Pope Francis affirm a most significant and fundamental part of their charism, and were even more pleased to know of his awareness of St. Raphaela Mary through the reflections he wrote in his book, *Open Mind, Faithful Heart*.

Sisters Belén Escauriaza and Kathleen Helbig represented the USA Province at the Bursars' Meeting held at the General Curia in Rome this summer. The sisters were part of the international group of bursars who met to review and discuss the financial practices and responsibilities of each country.



Sisters Carmen Cabrejos, Dona DeMarco, and Kathy Gazie joined Handmaids from seven countries for the tradition of CRECE, a gathering of on-going formation for Handmaids who made their perpetual profession in 1990 and 1991.

*"The body of
Christ is the
harmony of
the different."*

Pope Francis

Celebrating the Handmaid Legacy ...

A legacy is by definition something that someone leaves behind for others; something that suggests a way in which a person's life has created a significant, long lasting impact on others. The legacy of the Handmaids in the USA province was celebrated this year and paid tribute to the work they have done and continue to do. Spanning several generations in the USA, the Handmaid legacy encompasses their ministry of education in service of the Gospel. Everything the Handmaids strive to do is based on a desire to bring others to Christ's teachings through word and deed. Their desire as well for reparation surfaces in every act of kindness.

Nearly ninety years ago, at the request of Cardinal Dennis Dougherty, two Handmaids set out from Spain to begin a ministry in Philadelphia. Within the last few months of 1926, there were eighteen sisters who were working with women and children, teaching life skills and encouraging adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in their chapel on 34th Street.

We Remember the Handmaids who led the way to a new frontier in the USA in 1926...

Virginia Vivanco, Gabriela Dillon, Maria de los Reyes, Albertina, Justa Aguirreche, Natividad del Valle, Antonieta Manca, Agnes Moroney, Rosario Ramirez, Sofia Altuna, Fuensanta Portilla, Amparo Martinez, Maria Bengoechea, Josefina Vidaurre, Antonia Sada, Oliva Eguia, Josephine Bascou, Estanislada Arzanegui, Francisca Imaz, and Maria Cruz Hernandez. Through their pioneering spirit and commitment to the desires of St. Raphaela Mary, they established a foundation upon which a legacy would be built.

In the 1940s and 1950s, the Handmaids expanded their reach extending to the suburbs of Philadelphia. Education was again the primary focus with the establishment of Ancillae Academy and Ancilla Domini Academy in Wyncote and Germantown respectively. It is within these two educational institutions that the legacy of the Handmaids became more widely known and cherished. The thousands of students and families who felt the influence of a Handmaid education remain a steadfast and faithful group who remember dearly the sisters' guidance, warmth, and spirituality.

We Remember the deceased Handmaids who journeyed with us in the USA building well respected educational institutions...**Luisa Amado, Jane Anderson, Monserrat Barjou, Ana Rosa Beltran, Candida Bescansa, Mary Brennan, Catherine Byrne, Eladia Consul, Elena Corsenego, Angela de la Ossa, Kathleen Doherty, Antonia Escauriaza, Assumption Escauriaza, Elene Evers, Angela Gamarra, Marina Garcia, Maria Geldres, Socorro Gonzalo, Soledad Gonzalez, Virginia Hajinian, Irene Halahan, Margaret Mary Ingelsby, Maria Teresa Mannucci, Amparo Mendez, Mary McCabe, Elizabeth McCoy, Marie McKeone, Consuela Montoya, Juana Moronati, Agnes Morrissey, Angelica Nan, Margaret Noble, Ruth Nuckols, Sara Ortega, Avelina Peydro, Ramona Quintas, Ines Quintero, Constance Redmond, Maria Rivas, Custodia Rocha, Marian Rothman, Mercedes Ruiz, Dolores Rull, Lourdes Saavedra, Ma. Antonia San Emeterio, Josefa Uriá, Sara Videla, Pilar Ymaz, and Laura Zambrana.**

Also during this time, the Handmaids noticed a growing hunger for spirituality and contemplative prayer. Answering that need came in the form of a new ministry located in Haverford, PA. In 1957, the Blessed Raphaela Retreat Center opened, offering not only retreats, but days of prayer, adoration, and prayerful meditation. With the advent of the second Vatican Council, there came a change in the ecclesial and sociological contexts of the role of women in the Church and the Handmaids embraced this advantage. Led by Sister Ruth Nuckols, the Retreat Center and its devotees grew, as did the legacy of the Handmaids who became known for their gracious hospitality and compassion. We are grateful to have with us in our Province today the Retreat Center directors who followed Sister Ruth and include Sisters Dorothy Beck, Philomena Monte, Sagrario Núñez, and Margaret Scott. Sister Pilar Cremades, who was director for a time, returned to her native province, where she continues her ministry today.



From bottom to top, left to right: Sisters Betty Ann McDonald, Carmen Cabrejos, Dorothy Beck, Michelle Cimaroli, Maureen Gillespie, Uyen-Chi Dang, Theresa Vu, Florentina Iruretagoyena, Cecilia Chen, Kathleen Helbig, Cathernie Kirwan-Avila, Lyan Tri, Kayjoy Cooper, Mary Ann Craig, Cam Banh, Theresa Nguyen, Kathy Gazie, Gloria Petrone, and Belén Escauriaza at *The Legacy Gala*.

The last thirty years have seen the Handmaids in a variety of ministries, always answering the call of education and reparation. Their legacy continues as they extend compassion to the disenfranchised in Athens, Georgia; as they offer hospitality to the homeless in Miami; as they minister with humility to the children and adults who are struggling on the road of life.

We Salute the Handmaids in the USA Province who continue the legacy established by their predecessors - embracing a charism that seeks, finds, and serves God in all things, and ministering to all peoples "with love and for love"... **Cam Banh, Dorothy Beck, Carmen Cabrejos, Cecilia Chen, Michelle Cimaroli, Kayjoy Cooper, Angela Cordero, Mary Ann Craig, Pilar Dalmau, Uyen-Chi Dang, Dona DeMarco, Belén Escauriaza, Kathy Gazie, Maureen Gillespie, Rose Harmsen, Kathleen Helbig, Ruth Held, Florentina Iruretagoyena, Marietta Jansen, Jessica Kerber, Catherine Kirwan-Avila, Margarita Martin, Elizabeth McDonald, Brigid McGarvey, Philomena Monte, Mary Therese Nguyen, Sagrario Núñez, Gloria Petrone, Alice Rodriguez, María Jesús Sagaseta, Margaret Scott, Asunta Thanh, Cecilia Tong, Lyan Tri, Oanh Vo, Theresa Vu, and Julia Walsh.**

Throughout the history of the USA Province, there have been Handmaids from other parts of the world who worked and ministered in the United States.

We Are Grateful to the Handmaids for the time they spent with us and are now serving elsewhere... **Ana Maria Casas, Pilar Cremades, Norma Dominguez, Rosalba Gutierrez, Rosa Maria Molina, and Teresita Motos.**

Celebrating the Legacy of Elizabeth McCoy



In looking for an individual who has contributed volumes to the legacy of the Handmaids, one needs not look very far. In the USA Province, there have been countless sisters who have left indelible marks on the hearts and minds of many. Whether the sister's legacy is one of an excellent teacher or one who offered understanding and counsel; whether the sister was an agent of reconciliation or one who helped navigate the process of inculturation; whether she prayed with you, or laughed with you, or simply befriended you, the legacy of the Handmaids and the charism they embrace run deep and wide.

And yet there is one — whose legacy for all of the aforementioned reasons, rises to the top — Sister Elizabeth McCoy.

By the age of eight, Elizabeth McCoy had lost both of her parents. By the age of eighteen, after having graduated from Ancilla Domini Academy, she entered the convent of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. By the age of twenty-seven, she began a ministry in Wyncote - first as the principal of Ancilla Academy, later as the first principal of the merged Ancillae and Assumpta Academies; and finally, as the first director of Ancillae-Assumpta Academy, the position she held at the time of her death in 2004.

Who was this legend, this woman who embraced wholeheartedly her vocation as a Handmaid? She was a dreamer and a doer...an innovator...a thinker...a teacher. She was a person with an insatiable appetite for sharing life in every sense of the word...at the table, in the classroom, at home, and across the globe. There was no room for exclusion, and in that way, she exemplified the work of St. Raphaela Mary. Sister Elizabeth had a mission and a gift — for bringing people together...for celebrating diversity...for reverencing creation...for building community...for sharing all that she had. In true Handmaid tradition, she approached the world with hope and hospitality.

She has been described as *"our mother, our sister, our friend - always someone you could count on and always someone who knew what you needed."* In some ways, the magnitude of her vocation can best be described in the words of the Handmaid foundress, St. Raphaela Mary, *"Lord, expand my heart so that all may fit inside it."* This was the essence of her legacy — a desire to embrace each and everyone she met as Christ-like, as someone of great importance.

Symbols and Traditions Honored at The Legacy Gala

The Legacy Gala, held on March 29, 2014, the tenth anniversary of her death, allowed for a celebration of the Handmaid legacy and gave the opportunity to remember and reflect the many ways in which Sister Elizabeth's legacy continues to impact so many past and present friends and acquaintances. A video tribute sharing her life's work was presented and highlighted the aspects of her visionary gifts, her mission and her ministry as a Handmaid and educator.

Throughout the evening, there were touching reminders of the things that were important to her. The bread that was lovingly baked by her family and was part of her Quinn/McCoy legacy was a gift to each attendee. In a more far-reaching way, however, the bread signified the Eucharist — sharing the body of Christ among all people — something Sister Elizabeth and all the Handmaids, as Eucharistic women, revere as the "heart and life" of their mission.

The yellow rose that was incorporated in various ways for *The Legacy Gala* was symbolic of Sister Elizabeth and remains a tradition she established many years ago as a young Handmaid and school administrator. For her, the yellow rose became a way of demonstrating faithfulness and aptly conveyed Ancillae-Assumpta Academy's motto, "Ad Finem Fidelis" — faithful to the end, which she most certainly was.

It is hoped that the legacy of Sister Elizabeth McCoy will continue to enrich and inspire for many years to come.



The PECO Crown Lights displayed atop its headquarters at 23rd and Market Streets in Philadelphia, a message promoting the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and The Legacy Gala.

Photo Credit:
Savaria Photography

Since their first educational endeavor in 1946, the Handmaid family has included thousands of students and their families. Sister Elizabeth, since 1968, has known all of them. Spanning several generations at Ancillae-Assumpta Academy, our alumni Legacy Families, whose generous contributions supported *The Legacy Gala*, are gratefully acknowledged "with love and for love."

The Bozzi/Boyden Family

Ken, Marie Bozzi ('76), Laura ('08), and Becca ('11) Boyden

The Dearolf Family

Chip ('70), Susan, Joanna ('04), and Christopher ('07) Dearolf

The Garofalo/Wetton Family

Angelo ('80), Christine, Michael ('99), Angelo ('00), and Anthony ('06) Garofalo
George, Eileen Garofalo ('75), and Kristen ('13) Wetton

The Lintner/Bozzi Family

Dale ('82), Amy Bozzi ('82), Dale III ('06), Alex ('08), Zach ('08), and Nick ('11) Lintner
Eric Lintner ('80), Nicole Meister ('99), and Bruce Patterson ('94)

The Mayes/Flanagan Family

Cass Flanagan (ADA '59), Greg, Suzanne, Connor ('10), and Meredith ('13) Mayes

The Murray Family

Dan ('77), Terry, Katie ('10), Daniel ('12), and Rachel ('13) Murray, Vincent ('75) Murray

The Sauter/Giordano/Gregor Family

Dave, Debbie Sauter ('72), Steven ('01), Philip ('04), and Christa ('10) Giordano
Frank, Tina Sauter ('83), Emily ('13), Francis, and Molly Gregor
Robert ('76) and Richard ('11) Sauter,
Michael Sauter ('68), Patricia Sauter Speakman ('69)

The Seravalli/Bradley/Jobba Family

Fran ('77), Beth Anne, Frank ('02), Nick ('04), and Gia Seravalli
John ('82), Denise, Tom ('06), Angela, and John Seravalli
Tony, Melinda, Anthony ('96), Andrew ('02), and Brianna ('10) Seravalli
Donna Seravalli, Brendan ('07), and Lauren ('13) Bradley
Joe, Ann Seravalli, Jason ('94), Dana ('97), and Colleen ('02) Jobba
Chalie, Steven ('84), and Gina ('87) Seravalli



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The logo selected for *The Legacy Gala* is a compilation of gold intertwined hearts set on a deep blue background. The color gold and the hearts represent the Handmaids and are used in the symbol of their Congregation to convey the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The color blue is used in Ancillae-Assumpta Academy's school crest and logo. The sentiment, "*with love and for love*" remains part of the traditional educational mission established by the Handmaids and carried out by the Academy since its inception in 1945. While not expressly intentional, this logo has been compared to the symbol that is used in Celtic art to represent eternity, indivisibility, and unity.

Our Legacy Contributors Continued

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A Legacy Built on Love and Loyalty



In 1946, Sister Assumption Escauriaza left her native Spain for the United States. It was her first trip across the Atlantic. The following year, in April, 1947, she was missioned to Cuba, where the Handmaids had established a ministry that offered ways of sharing the gospel message. They opened a chapel and began daily Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Always with the desire to provide opportunities for reparation, the Handmaids offered days of retreat and prayer. The Handmaids were welcomed in Havana, and especially in the communities of Luyano and Miramar.

When Sister Assumption arrived, she met the Luyano community which she quickly grew to love. After her first year, Sister Assumption learned from the General Superior in Rome that she was to oversee the construction of a school in Miramar. Its purpose and mission was to offer academic and spiritual instruction to young women. The building project began with the assistance of Sister Esther Gall, a Cuban, who had previously taught kindergarten. In 1949, Colegio de las Esclavas del Sagrado Corazón de

Jesús opened its doors. Once the school was established, a grade was

added each year until all the grades were in place. That same year, Sister Pilar Ymaz arrived in Cuba to assume the responsibility of Prefect for the school. Along with a number of Handmaids from other Spanish speaking countries, the Sisters created an environment at the school that maintained the mission and desire established by St. Raphaela Mary - to educate young women in the ways that would serve them in the future as good, Christian women. Sr. Assumption left Cuba in 1954 to take on the next call of her ministry, building a school for boys in Wyncote, PA, which was named in her honor, Assumpta Academy. The task of continuing to maintain the school in Miramar was left in the capable and loving hands of Sr. Pilar and the other Handmaids.

In the years that Colegio de las Esclavas del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús was operated, the students and their families developed a lasting impression of the Handmaids as women who enabled their students to grow into capable, strong, intelligent, young women of faith. Their appreciation for the education the Handmaids offered and for their charism was far reaching. One alumna poignantly recalls, *"Even though my family was poor, the sisters helped me in my schooling. They prepared me for life. My loving memories are more of the love and kindness shown to me by the sisters."*

In 1961, as the political system in Cuba was changing, all religious congregations were expelled from the country. This forced the Handmaids to leave their beloved school and the Cuban people who had been a part of their ministries for forty years. It was a dangerous and sad time for the Handmaids. It was also a time of upheaval for the Cuban students and their families. Many families fled the country looking for a safer haven and settled throughout the world, with many relocating to the Miami area. Others remained in Cuba. Some years later, Sister Assumption admitted, *"The schools may not be ours but they are open to provide the sacraments and worship continues. Our elderly alumnae from Luyano and Miramar maintain the culture and are able to continue our tradition to have the Eucharist exposed at least one day a month."* It was not what the Handmaids had hoped for, but it was something. She added,

In a letter to M. Maria del Salvador in January, 1889, Saint Raphaela Mary writes: "I don't know if I told you that I wrote to the bishop of Havana. It would give me great joy to see a house of reparation there."

Sr. Raphaela Mary died in Rome.	Handmaids arrived in Philadelphia and began a ministry on 34th Street.	Handmaids began Ancillae Academy.	Handmaids moved to Germantown. 34th Street closed.
1925	1926	1946	1951
1921	May, 1947	January, 1949	April, 1949
The Handmaids began a ministry in Cuba. At the time there were other Handmaid communities in Spain, Italy, Argentina, England, and Peru. In Cuba, their ministry included offering vocational preparation to young people and instruction in catechism.	At the request of the Handmaid General in Rome, the building of a Handmaid school in Cuba began under the direction of Sister Assumption Escauriaza.	Colegio de las Esclavas del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, the school in Miramar, opened with thirty students enrolled.	Sister Pilar Ymaz arrived in Cuba to assume the post of Prefect at the school in Miramar. She later held the same post at Ancilla Domini Academy in Germantown.



Class of 1961

"The country has wonderful memories of our religious and we hope to return."

In 1986, a quarter of a century since the Miramar school had closed, the students who had once been together under the loving watch of the Handmaids held their first reunion. One alumna reports that it felt *"like returning home...to the family where we shared so much of good and bad times...returning to the group where we belong."* Another added, *"Although it has*

been many years since we separated, the spirit of the Handmaid school and the formation we received there, continues in our souls...we still hold dear the sisters who educated us, our classmates, and our teachers." These women, loyal friends and fervent supporters of the Handmaids, continue to meet with regularity, and have even developed a website to share their stories, their history, and their memories of their beloved Handmaid school. They continue to be most appreciative of the influence of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in their early lives and of the friendships they have been able to maintain with one another.

It should come as no surprise that when these women learned that the Handmaids had returned to their homeland to reestablish a Handmaid community there, they were overjoyed. In the coastal city of Caibarién, which is situated to the north of one of the oldest provinces in central Cuba, the Handmaids arrived in June, 2007. Their mission was to develop apostolic activity in and through the parish. The sisters sent to begin this new undertaking were Eduarda Barata, Ana Cabo, and Martha Duque. When Sister Martha returned to Colombia, Sister Beatriz Garrido arrived. In 2014, another Handmaid, Sister Marta Pedrozo, from Portugal, was sent to join their efforts. Slowly at first, they began learning about the needs of the community, which is deeply impoverished.

In the brief time the Handmaids have been back in Cuba, they have managed to introduce a variety of pastoral activities for children, adolescents, youth and adults, including the ministry of baptism of children. Their work extends to the chapels of the parish and has expanded to the village of Cambaito. They have organized dressmaking workshops for women together with a Caritas group. The Handmaids also assist a nearby parish with the formation program for adults, which includes the spiritual exercises in daily life. In the diocese they collaborate in the pastoral outreach of the vicariate. They coordinate the catechesis, the ministry to adolescents and youth ministry, and they serve on the mission team of the diocese.

Having answered the hope of Sister Assumption, it is a great blessing to have the Handmaids return to Cuba where their charism is lived among such hospitable and welcoming people.

Sister Pilar Dalmau, who is currently a member of the Handmaid community in Wyncote, remembers that the Handmaids in Luyano and Miramar educated many girls in the gospel values and attracted many young Cuban women to a religious vocation. She is one of them. In her family of nine children, her parents stressed Christian values. There were no movies or television, but rather the everyday music and laughter that echoed in the Vedado, Cuba neighborhood where everyone knew each other and where lasting relationships were built. She describes the atmosphere as one *"where we had good friendships and simple diversion."* Sister Pilar's family took education very seriously and she attended a Catholic high school and later Villanova University, Havana, (a branch of the Augustinians from Villanova, PA). It was during this time that she attended a retreat held in the Handmaid's convent located in the poor section of Luyano. She was deeply moved by witnessing the Handmaids during their Adoration of Jesus before the Blessed Sacrament. The seed of a religious vocation had been planted and she began attending daily Mass and making visits to the Handmaids more frequently. The day after graduating from college, Pilar Dalmau entered the Handmaid convent. Following her final profession, Sister Pilar returned to Cuba and began her ministry teaching at Colegio de las Esclavas del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús.

Handmaids began Ancilla Domini Academy.

1953

Handmaids began a Retreat Center & Juniorate House of Studies in Haverford.

1957

Handmaids began the establishment of a community in Miami.

1975

Raphaela Mary was canonized a saint.

1977

Handmaids began the establishment of a community in Atlanta.

1985

Handmaids began the establishment of a community in Athens.

2002

Handmaids began Project Fiat, a mission in El Salvador.

2004

1954

Sister Assumption Escauriaga left Cuba to begin her new ministry in Wyncote.

1959

Sister Pilar Dalmau began her teaching ministry in Miramar.

April, 1961

With the tumultuous events in Cuba following the Bay of Pigs Invasion, all religious orders were expelled. The Handmaids were forced to leave Cuba.

September, 1986

The Miramar alumnae living in the Miami vicinity held their first reunion. Since then, reunions often include alumnae who live in other areas and the Handmaids.

June, 2007

Three Handmaids, Sisters Eduarda Barata, Ana Cabo and Martha Duque arrived in Cuba to reestablish a Handmaid presence and to begin a parish ministry in Caibarién.



From one alumna:
"I entered the Handmaid School in Miramar in 1956 and graduated in Philadelphia in 1962. I met all the founding sisters, and have fond memories of the sisters as educators who taught us to be Christian women. My education provided by the sisters gave me the internal strength and a friendship with my classmates who will be with me for life."

In the spring of 2013, Sisters Eduarda Barata and Ana Cabo stopped to visit the Handmaid community in Miami and the Miramar alumnae living close by. Years earlier, the alumnae had developed a warm relationship with the US Handmaids who had lived in Miami, particularly Sisters Kayjoy Cooper, María Jesús Sagasetta, and Sagrario Núñez, among others. While visiting, Sisters Eduarda and Ana shared with the alumnae their moving experiences and photos from their new Handmaid community in Caibarien, Cuba.

So touched by the sisters' stories and so grateful for the newly established presence in their native country, the alumnae seized the opportunity to show their gratitude and committed themselves to helping the new ministry.

To that end, within a few months, the Miramar alumnae contributed nearly \$6,000.00 for the Handmaids in Cuba. Aware of the very great needs in their homeland, they also responded to the sisters' "wish list" for contributions of crafts, books, clothing, and other materials to Caibarien.

There is much to be said about this loyal and loving group of women who have continued their connection with and commitment to each other and the Handmaids. A familiar motto comes to mind... "Ad finem fidelis" - faithful to the end! Perhaps that sentiment alone will suffice.

CAIBARIEN PROJECT DONORS

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Eduardo Zayas-Bazan and
Lourdes Quirch

Saint Raphaela Center

A place and a time for God... and You!

This is a story about thirteen men who made a commitment to one another over forty years ago and still honor that commitment today. It is a story about the loyalty they feel toward one another and their Church. It is a story that sheds some light on their ability to prioritize that which is important. It is a story about friendship and faith.

In the early 1970s, this group of men made a retreat called Cursillo. Cursillo is a Spanish word which translates best as "Short Course." More descriptively, it is a short course in Christian living, learning what is fundamental to being a Christian in one's everyday life. A worldwide lay movement within the Catholic Church, it is an encounter with Christ, oneself, and others.

Shortly thereafter their first Cursillo, the men began meeting weekly at Casa del Carmen in Philadelphia where one of them, Father Thomas Craven, was the director. By the mid-70s, thirteen men belonged to the group. Their composition was a most unlikely group of guys. Among them were two priests and two college graduates. A few had some college experience. The others had a high school education. Their employment was varied: a boilermaker, a lineman for PECO, a fund-raiser, a CPA, a computer engineer, an owner of a printing company, an entrepreneur, a cost accountant, and three salesmen. Each Monday evening, they met for prayer and socializing. Frequently, they went out for dinner.

Each time Father Craven had a change of assignment, the group moved its gathering to a location closer to Father's new assignment. When Father Craven (by then, Monsignor Craven) retired, they were left without a place to meet. One member of the group who had been a volunteer at St. Raphaela Center, approached Sister Gloria Petrone asking about the possibility of coming to the Center for lunch and using one of the rooms for their meeting. Sister Gloria graciously agreed, and the men began convening at the Center in 2004. There were nine men at that point.

For many years, the meetings were held weekly. The group now meets every other week and takes time off during the summer. Bound together by a deep friendship and their spiritual journey, the Center offers a perfect place for them, with its quiet and peaceful surroundings easily lending to contemplation and prayer. Though the number of men has decreased to five, they still gather regularly at the Center and relish the time they share. Their commitment to God and to each other is stronger now than ever. With a forty-year history under their belts, how could it be anything less?



From left to right: Frank Harnett, Jack Cooper, Joel Ziff, Chuck Campbell, and John Gordon



Saint Raphaela Center is a beautiful stone mansion nestled in a wooded area in Haverford, PA. The chapel (pictured at left) offers a sacred place for worship, prayer, liturgy, and concerts. The Heritage Room (at right) offers gracious and comfortable surroundings that give the perfect ambience for gatherings and small group conversation and sharing.



Walking With St. Raphaela - One Associate's Journey

The layperson, by virtue of her vocation, is asked to be a leaven of the love of God in society itself, to create and sow hope, and to proclaim the faith from her everyday life. This is one woman's unforgettable and grace-filled experience as she continues to embrace and live her faith daily.

In Madrid, Spain, the city where the Handmaid Institute was first officially established, forty-two members attending the 2nd International Assembly of the ACJ family stayed at Martinez Campos house. Susan Singer, an ACJ Associate and member of the Advisory Board for the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province, was blessed to be one of them. Excerpts from a journal she kept are recounted here:

It was in this house that Saint Raphaela Mary lived as Superior, Mistress of Novices, and Superior General. It was in the chapel of Martinez Campos that the 'adoration of the people,' which was the dream of Saint Raphaela Mary, had its beginnings. Back then, a portress from one of the nearby houses, Mrs. Paca, initiated participation in the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. As time went on, the group grew and became the Association of Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament, the seed of the ACJ family." This important fact I learned from one of the many lessons and lectures that filled my heart during the brief time I spent with the Handmaids and the ACJ family.

Fittingly, the theme of the assembly was "ACJ Family, gift of the Spirit...Family for the world." And how very profoundly the message came through. Saint Raphaela wrote, *"The heart of a Handmaid should not be limited to any determined number, but should extend to the whole world."* What we, the ACJ Family, saw, heard, and felt during our week in Spain, was the universal gift of the Handmaids sharing the wealth of their Charism, and reminding us that it is possible to *"love without borders, to share without limits, to work together as brothers and sisters, and to be the seeds from which sprout the universal love in which St. Raphaela Mary firmly believed."* Our group was comprised of thirteen Handmaids and twenty-nine laity from nineteen different countries. But we were one in mind and heart as we traveled together our journey of faith.



The group gathers in the kitchen of St. Raphaela Mary's home in Pedro Abad, Spain.

with which I was received in Madrid two decades later.

My last day in Spain and celebrating Mass with the ACJ Family will forever be imprinted in my heart and mind. I have held on to every detail — the beauty and serenity of the chapel, the goodness of those who shared this remarkable journey with me, and what the "gift of the Spirit...Family for the world" has placed in me. I am still awestruck and humbled at realizing that I knelt in the same chapel where St. Raphaela Mary knelt, gazed outside the same windows that she gazed, and most importantly, was through the 2nd International Assembly, a small part of the legacy that she began more than a century ago.

Since returning from Spain, I have prayed, meditated, and processed the experience that I received through learning about the life of St. Raphaela Mary and the Handmaid mission. Each element that has been offered to me has countless layers — many that have yet to reveal themselves. But I am finding that as I peel away each layer, reflecting on the Handmaids, their foundress, and their mission, it is laced with love, laughter, and generosity.

These things I know and feel compelled to share: that this community of women who are situated in twenty-four countries across the globe have made their quiet and humble mark since 1877, with eighty-eight years in the US; that our US Province of Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a gift to our nation; and that the many gifts, talents, and the history the Handmaids share has given and continues to give an opening to reparation, healing, dialogue, diversity and discovery. I also know I want to continue walking with them in this journey of love and faith...



JUBILEES CELEBRATED

Among the eight Handmaids celebrating a jubilee this year, six remain actively involved in sharing their many gifts through the daily works and responsibilities of their ministries. Commemorating sixty years of consecrated religious life are three "local girls":

A proud graduate of West Catholic High School, **Sister Dorothy Beck** is in her sixth year as Provincial Superior of the USA Province, having held the position twice before. Additionally, she is the director of St. Raphaela Center in Haverford and also serves as the Superior of the Haverford community.

Sister Marietta Jansen, who came to know the Handmaids through visits to their 34th Street chapel as a young girl, is a member of the Athens community and remains vital to the ministry at Oasis Católico, where she serves many disadvantaged Hispanic families.

Continuing her many years of dedicated service to La Salle University, **Sister Betty Ann McDonald** belongs to the Philadelphia community. Interestingly, in addition to Sisters Dorothy and Betty Ann entering the Handmaid novitiate at the same time, they share November 5th as a birthday.

Also a "local girl" is **Sister Gloria Petrone**, who was raised in St. Bridget's parish and is a 1959 graduate of the Handmaid high school, Ancilla Domini Academy. Sister Gloria has coordinated Project Fiat in El Salvador since its inception in 2004.

Sister Sagrario Núñez was born in Spain and is the Superior of the Wyncote community. She also serves as the novice directress and as the coordinator of the Wyncote ACJ Associates. Both Sisters Gloria and Sagrario have previously served as Provincial Superior for the USA Province.

A native of Vietnam, **Sister Cecilia Tong** is currently a member of the retreat staff at Saint Raphaela Center in Haverford. Prior to her return to the USA several years ago, Sister Cecilia ministered for many years in the Philippines.

Sisters **Rose Harmsen** and **Bridgid McGarvey** are retired and continue living out their Handmaid vocation through loving and prayerful service to God.



70 years
Rose Harmsen, acj



65 years
Bridgid McGarvey, acj



60 years
Dorothy Beck, acj



60 years
Marietta Jansen, acj



60 years
Betty Ann McDonald, acj



55 years
Gloria Petrone, acj



55 years
Sagrario Núñez, acj



50 years
Cecilia Tong, acj

The Handmaid Jubilarians mark a collective 475 years of service!

Year End Totals

2013-2014

Fundraising	\$188,050
Grants	\$62,368.51
Annual Fund	\$66,015.20
Novena of Mass Cards	\$6,392
Memorials	\$2,995
Other	<u>\$5,951</u>
TOTAL	\$331,771.71

2012-2013

Fundraising	\$112,355
Grants	\$173,609
Annual Fund	\$42,965
Novena of Mass Cards	\$4,130
Memorials	\$5,955
Other	<u>\$4,550</u>
TOTAL	\$343,564

2011-2012

Fundraising	\$177,321
Grants	\$95,270
Annual Fund	\$57,677
Novena of Mass Cards	\$4,630
Bequests	<u>\$42,360</u>
TOTAL	\$377,258

2010-2011

Fundraising	\$145,490
Grants	\$71,000
Annual Fund	\$30,132
Novena of Mass Cards	<u>\$2,957</u>
TOTAL	\$249,579

2009-2010

Fundraising	\$75,819
Grants	\$37,000
Annual Fund	<u>\$7,013</u>
TOTAL	\$119,832

Annual Fund Contributions

GIFTS from \$25,000

Hope Rosenlund

GIFTS from \$5,000 to \$9,999

Ward and Kathy Fitzgerald

GIFTS from \$1,000 to \$4,999

Michael and Mary Beth Beck

In Honor of Dorothy Beck, acj

Patricia Crognale

In Memory of Stephen W. Crognale

Joseph and Jean Eble

Bernard Dauenhauer and Jean Friedman

G. Wesley and Crystal Kuhnle

Natalia Salies

Fred and Susan Singer

In Honor of The Handmaids

of the Sacred Heart

Jeannette Velazquez

GIFTS from \$500 to \$999

William and Anne Arnold

Rosalie Brulte

In Honor of Philomena Monte, acj

Joe and Donna Ferrier

In Memory of Beatrice F. Nicoletti

Chuck and Betsy Minnich

In Memory of John Seydow

Pat Murray

Maria Orellano

David and Mary Reid

Dick and Ellen Ryan

In Memory of John Ryan

and Margaret Spillane

Annual Fund Contributions

GIFTS from \$100 to \$499

John and Angie Ballestro	Campbell Gibson	Reverend Donald Reilly, O.S.A.
<i>In Honor of Kayjoy Cooper, acj</i>	Chase and Cheryl Gibson	Kevin Robinson
Ken and Joan Banks	Chase Gibson, Jr.	<i>In Memory of Kevin Robinson, AAA '94</i>
<i>In Memory of Connie Redmond, acj</i>	Sid and Helena Gosser	Elizabeth Romano
Michael and Millicent Basile	<i>In Honor of Megan & Amanda Gosser</i>	<i>In Memory of Antonio Roma</i>
Ernie and Betty Beck	Gino and Lisa Greatti	David and Suzanne Rowland
<i>In Memory of Ernie and Dorothy Beck</i>	<i>In Memory of Carmella Fedullo</i>	Thomas Sabatino
Gary and Renee Benedict	Frank and Tina Gregor	Sanctuary Music Ensemble at
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<i>In Honor of Jessica Kerber, acj</i>	Handicapped Encounter Christ at	Mary Scott
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<i>In Memory of Nina Tyler</i>	Leonard and Shareen Helbig	Lawanda Sheridan
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John Cipollone, Jr.	<i>In Memory of Julio Lopez</i>	✠Reverend Shawn Tracy
<i>In Memory of Lena Cipollone</i>	Reverend John Lyons	Raul and Annie Trujillo
Michael Cipollone	Bernard and Ann Madden	Teresita Vilar
<i>In Memory of Lena Cipollone</i>	<i>In Memory of Dr. Michael McDonough</i>	<i>In Memory of Alfredo Vilar</i>
Brian and Michelle Clark	Hon Wah Man and Emily Fung	Catherine Vizuete
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<i>In Memory of DiPietro & Winter Families</i>	Paul Owens	<i>In Memory of Thomas E. Zerbe, Sr.,</i>
Helen Drozdowski	<i>In Memory of Anne Owens</i>	<i>James Zerbe, Susan Fecho Zerbe, and</i>
Steve and Jan Eddowes	<i>and Elizabeth McCoy, acj</i>	<i>Michelle LeFevre Zerbe</i>
<i>In Honor of Kayjoy Cooper, acj</i>	Rosalie Patitucci	Joel and Roseanne Ziff
Ron and Barbara Endo	Joanne Petrone	
Marge Flannery	Joe and Kathy Petrone	
Most Rev. Bishop Joseph Galante	Tom and Kathy Petz	
Michele Gallagher	Tom and Liz Prendergast	

✠ denotes deceased

Annual Fund Contributions

GIFTS to \$99

Al and Eileen Araco
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Ron and Roseanna Barrett
*In Memory of The Monte Family and
In Honor of Philomena Monte, acj*
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Vincent Cipollone
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Laura DelRosario
In Memory of Peter DelRosario
Dominick and Patricia DiJulia
✠ Marie Drew
In Memory of Virginia Drew Gary
John and Mary Earnest
In Memory of John Earnest
John and Kathleen Engel
In Memory of Judith Pond
Jay and Molly Fiandra
In Honor of Molly Fiandra, AAA '81
Ed and Kathy Flood
In Memory of Glen Flood, AAA '90
Reverend Steve Garrity, SJ
*In Honor of Philomena Monte, acj and
In Memory of Assumption Escauriaz, acj*
Greg Geruson and Eileen Kelly
Cara Gibson
Connor Gibson
Frank and Ada Gil
In Memory of Pat Quinn
Mary Gorman

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:7

Kathleen Hack
Peggy Haggerty
In Honor of Philomena Monte, acj
Mary Herron
*In Memory of Dan Herron
and John Vallely*
Reverend Thomas Higgins
Elizabeth Kenney
Robert and Elaine Kneemiller
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Mildred Lester
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Delia Menocal
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*In Memory of Catherine And James Morris
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Mary Morris
*In Memory of Catherine And James Morris
and Elizabeth McCoy, acj*

T. Michael and Bernice Murphy
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In Honor of Ed & Kippy Weinrich
Michael and Jennifer Winski
Mary Winter
*In Honor of The Winter and
DiPietro Families*

✠ denotes deceased

Grants

During the 2013-2014 year, the following agencies provided support to the Handmaids USA Province. We are deeply grateful for the generosity they offered to our mission and ministries.

The Berdan Support Fund provided a \$2,000 grant for continued support of the Formation Program.

The California Community Foundation provided a grant for the Formation Fund in the amount of \$10,000.

The Koch Foundation provided a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for the Formation Program.

The PHA Interdiocesan Fund for Religious provided \$6,860 for retired Sisters.

The Sullivan Family Charity provided a grant of \$4,000 for the Athens community to use at their discretion.

The Annual National Religious Retirement Appeal, made in parishes each December, provided \$24,508.51 for retired Sisters.

Total	\$62,368.51
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Matching Gifts

The Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus recognize the companies offering matching gifts. Their gifts are credited to the donor requesting the match.

Comcast Corporation

Pew Charitable Trust

Gifts-in-Kind

The Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus are deeply grateful for non-cash gifts totaling \$15,100, which were received during 2013-2014.

Andie Agresta

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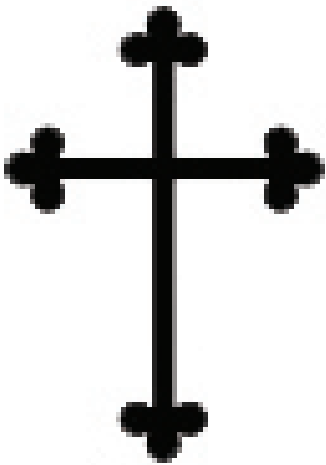
Contributions and Gifts



According to the requests of our donors, designations to specific funds have been honored. The following chart details a breakdown of contributions.

Designations	Grants	Annual Fund	Other	Total
ACJ Province Development		28,455.20		28,455.20
Ancillae-Assumpta Academy		100		100
Aged and Infirm	31,368.51	3,640	6,392 (Novena of Masses)	41,400.51
Athens	4,000			4,000
Formation	27,000	3,515		30,515
Project FIAT		600		600
Caibarien Project			5,951	5,951
Province General Operating		4,175		4,175
St. Raphaela Center		25,530	2,995 (Memorial)	28,525
Fundraising (includes \$14,050 outstanding pledges)			188,050	188,050
Gifts-in-kind (not included in total)			15,100	
TOTAL	\$ 62,368.51	\$ 66,015.20	\$ 203,388	\$331,771.71

We Lovingly Remember Josephine Buono - August 29, 2013



Josephine Buono died peacefully on August 29, 2013. The devoted wife of Russell Buono for 64 years, Josephine was the loving mother of four and grandmother of five.

A longtime and cherished supporter of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Saint Raphaela Center, Josephine was a frequent and faithful guest for many years at the Center. We rejoice in the gift of her life and are grateful for the many years of dedication and friendship.

Through the generosity of her family, contributions in Josephine's memory were designated to the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province to support the Saint Raphaela Center. The Handmaids deeply appreciate this kind and thoughtful gesture.

Contributors include:

Brad and Heather Baseshore

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Ways to Support the Handmaid Province

- Volunteer at any of our ministries.
- Become an ACJ Associate, Adorer, or member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Ways to Contribute to the Handmaid Province

- Remit check by mail to the Handmaids USA Province Development Office in Haverford, PA.
- Contribute on-line through Network for Good. One-time or recurring contributions can be set up & managed.
- Utilize your employer Matching gifts program. (Contact your employer for information.)
- Significant tax advantages are available for making contributions to charitable organizations through planned giving, (including bequests, securities, life insurance, annuities, and more). Please consider the Handmaids when planning your estate.

Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
USA Province Development Office

616 Coopertown Road
Haverford, PA 19041

www.acjusa.org

www.acjjourneyofhope.org

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