



Handmaids of the Sacred
Heart of Jesus,
USA Province

Report on
Philanthropic
Giving

2016-2017



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This report presents the names of donors who made gifts to the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017. While every attempt has been made to guarantee the accuracy of this report, omissions and errors may occur. Please advise the Province Development Office at 610-642-5715 of any inaccuracies.

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 María Jesús Sagaseta is honored for celebrating 60 years as a Handmaid of the Sacred Heart of Jesus; Srs. Kayjoy Cooper and Maureen Gillespie witness the first profession of Catherine Kirwin-Avila; Sister Margaret Scott receives her doctoral degree; Srs. Kathy Gazie, Oanh Vo, and Lyan Tri; Pope Francis visits with the Handmaids in Rome; Srs. Michelle Cimaroli, Pilar Dalmau, and Sagrario Núñez.



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From Our Leadership

Dear Friends,

I am filled with joy, as I open this publication and read about the commitment of some of the Sisters over these past few months.

We have a tremendous power deep inside us: we long to build bridges, we want to walk with others towards the shaping of a better world, we desire to be an active link in the reconstruction of unity and of solidarity. We are called to put into practice the virtue of compassion, in response to the encyclical *Laudato Si*.

At the present time, that power comes from the contemplation of the opened side of Christ that both offers us and calls us to mercy.

Our task is to put these calls into practice and that we can only do "with others". You, who work in our apostolic ministries, you, who volunteer in any activity where there is a Handmaid, you parents and teachers, you who frequent the Retreat Center, you, with your presence and participation, with your generosity, you are active members in the response that the Sisters give to the desires that spring up from the depth of their convictions.

We have before our eyes, the enormous challenge of human mobility to which we wish to respond with a specific commitment. What can we do?

Let us reflect, pray, and act.

Once again, thank you to each one of you.

Belén Escauriaza, acj
Provincial Superior, USA Province
Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus



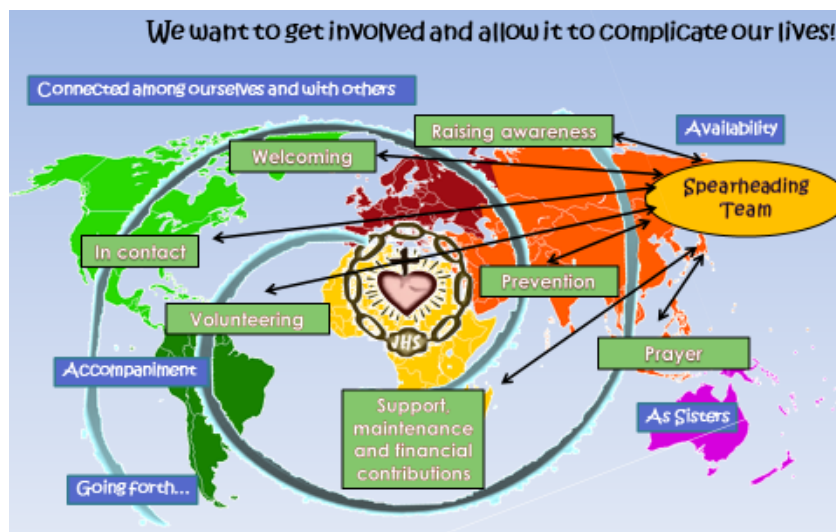
Dear Friends,

After six years, the last three as Chairperson, my term on the Development Advisory Board has come to an end. It has been a genuine pleasure and privilege for me to have served in these capacities and I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside such a committed group of lay members and sisters. The more that I have gotten to know the Handmaids and the longer I have continued to witness the work that they do, the greater is my admiration for them. They are selfless, caring, compassionate, loving women religious whose faithful service is unmatched. I thank you for the many contributions and support you have offered to the Handmaids during 2016-17 and ask you to continue to extend your kindness and generosity toward their mission and ministries.

With my sincere best wishes,

Mike Valucci, Chairperson
Handmaid USA Province Advisory Board

SUPPORT FOR PERSONS IN THE SITUATION OF HUMAN MOBILITY



“Let us contribute our grain of sand to the whole so that, networking, we may be able in each place to raise awareness, anticipate, welcome, support, pray, and commit ourselves to those persons in our world, especially women and children, who are suffering in the terrible situation of Human Migration.”

From the meetings conducted at GC XX, it was proposed to all the Handmaids, members of the ACI Family, and the laity who collaborate with the Sisters, to support this project concerned with human mobility which we want to carry out in the light of the Mercy of the Heart of Jesus.

In the previous Handmaid newsletter, published in May, 2017, we introduced the Project to which we, the Handmaids, together with our lay collaborators, ACI Family, and others are committed.

We now ask for your help in exploring what we can do. Do we know any specific individuals in this situation? Do we know why they have been forced to flee their country, their home, their family? Once we have identified these individuals, can we perhaps give them a concrete face and discover the specific reasons for their mobility?

A next step could be for each of us to give our time by opening up in our hearts a welcoming space that helps us to understand the reasons that might have provoked so much displacement. Financial collaboration would also be a way to respond to this call.

Finally, we can take the initiative to inform the Sisters about a situation in which assistance can be offered.

I ask for your commitment in prayer and action to unite with the Sisters and lay associates in responding to the call of GCXX.

On the webpage: congregacion-aci.org, under Project GCXX, we can find the testimonies of displaced persons who are in contact with the Handmaids in different parts of the world. Let us place in the paten in our Sunday mass some of these faces and let us allow the Spirit of Jesus to lead us and illuminate this path that we must follow.

LCWR CONDEMNS RACISM IN ALL FORMS

The Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) condemns racism in all forms whether the violent acts of the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazis and white supremacist groups or the daily acts of hate and discrimination that diminish us all.

We grieve with the citizens of Charlottesville and all people of goodwill. We mourn with all who have lost loved ones, with all who live in fear, with all whose dignity is threatened by hate and violence. We lament the racism that continues to afflict our communities and threaten the values that we hold dear.

We acknowledge our own complicity in institutional racism. We commit ourselves to cleanse our hearts and rid our land of this evil. We promise to pray for our country and to continue to use our voice and our energy to build God's beloved community where all are one in Christ Jesus.

LCWR is an association of leaders of congregations of Catholic women religious in the United States. The conference has nearly 1,300 members who represent more than 38,800 women religious in the United States. founded in 1956, LCWR assists its members to collaboratively carry out their service of leadership to further the mission of the gospel in today's world.

The Handmaids Offer Global Support



Sister Margaret Scott (far left front) is pictured with members of UNANIMA.

UNANIMA is active in many committees and working groups at the United Nations.

- NGO Committee on Disarmament
- NGO Committee on Financing for Development
- NGO Committee on the International Decade for the World's Indigenous People
- NGO Committee on Migration
- NGO Committee for Social Development
- NGO Committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons
- The Mining Working Group
- The Working Group on Girls

As a community of women religious, the mission of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is "to bring healing to people's hearts and peace to their relationships with God, with one another, and with creation."

In concert with the Handmaid mission and among her many responsibilities, Sister Margaret Scott remains an active member of UNANIMA, an organization that works for systemic change to achieve a more just world.

Along with twenty congregations of Roman Catholic sisters whose 20,000 constituents work in over 80 countries, the organization advocates on behalf of women and children (particularly those living in poverty), immigrants and refugees, and the environment.

The group's work takes place primarily at the United Nations headquarters in New York, where it and other members of civil society aim to educate and influence policymakers at the global level.

Several years ago, UNANIMA adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to monitor the national progress At the

most recent meeting, the spotlight was on the eradication of poverty, ending hunger, healthcare for all, gender equality, sustainable and inclusive innovation, industrialization, and infrastructure, and the conservation of oceans.

One of the key features of UNANIMA's meetings is the emphasis on the interconnectedness of issues that may appear distinct on their surface. Given the areas of focus for this year, many events were highlighting the relationships between poverty and gender equality, gender equality and hunger, hunger and health, human health and ocean health, ocean health and sustainable industrialization, and sustainable industrialization and poverty. Among the issues being considered were soil health (as it relates to nutrition, hunger, human health, healthy waterways, and sustainable industrialization), sustainable transportation infrastructure (as it relates to sustainable infrastructure, waterway health, human safety and health, and access to other pathways for development), and migration (as it relates to poverty, health, gender equality, industrialization and innovation, and waterway health).

According to Sr. Margaret, through UNANIMA, Peru recently received a \$10,000 grant for water filters after the flooding in Peru. The African Region is organizing a workshop on trafficking using resources from UNANIMA. India has requested that an Indian Handmaid receive an Internship to work with UNANIMA next year.

Along with Sr. Margaret, two of the Handmaid Assistants General, Srs. Maria Vaz Pinto and Clemencia Carrizosa, will get a firsthand view of the workings of this international organization when they attend the September Board Meeting of UNANIMA.

~ Sister Catherine Welcomes Pilgrims ~

Sister Catherine Kirwan-Avila, (pictured third from left) is studying in Madrid, Spain, and spent some time recently in Santiago, Spain, with a Jesuit volunteer program called *Apertas*. While there, Sr. Catherine worked

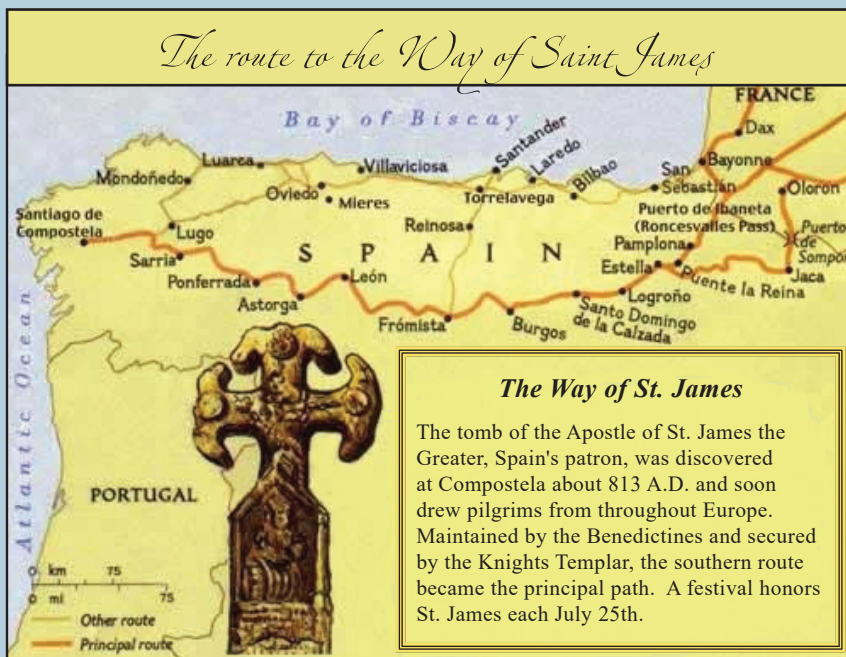


with a group of young adults in the Pilgrim's Office, near the cathedral in Santiago Compostela welcoming pilgrims. Her role there was to welcome and listen, as well as to give each pilgrim the official Compostela certificate that includes a blessing and acknowledges their journey to the tomb of St. James. The volunteers also invited the pilgrims to join in a few moments of prayer and music throughout the day. The Camino De Santiago, also known as the way of St. James the Apostle,

There are many pilgrimage routes from places in Europe that end at the tomb of St. James (Santiago). This pilgrimage became popular in the 9th century when the tomb was found.

Today, pilgrims walk, bike, and sometimes drive on these paths. It can take up to 30 days walking the 500 miles of the most common route.

Sr. Catherine reflected that the pilgrims come from many different countries and speak many different languages. The volunteers were a welcoming presence as they arrived at the end of their journey. Pilgrims arrive in a "wide variety of states – some are elated and some are barely able to walk due to blisters and exhaustion. Some have walked to remember a loved one, some more for sport, some are chatty and some cry when you welcome them." Catherine's and the volunteers' role was just to be present to each person, to listen to their experience, to offer them a smile and hopefully reflect something of God's love and compassion for them. For most pilgrims, this is a spiritual journey or some say "a journey with spiritual benefits." For Sr. Catherine and the volunteers, it was a very moving experience to connect with and hear the stories of the pilgrims who completed the Camino de Santiago.



For many centuries, pilgrims have followed St. James footsteps across Spain and still continue to arrive in Santiago de Compostela. Camino de Santiago means freedom, culture, sport, nature, tradition, challenge, peace, but above all it is freedom. Numerous emperors like Charlemagne, popes like Calixtus II, kings like Alfonso II, brave knights like the Spanish "El Cid" or the Knights Templar, noblemen, priests, farmers, beggars, travelers, the healthy, the sick, the blind, the lame, the rich, and the homeless; all of them were pilgrims in el Camino de Santiago and all of them were treated the same because no one knew if the dirty, tired and blistered pilgrim that just arrived in the village was a king, a bishop, or a pauper. They were and still are pilgrims — always searching for something and always coming away with new discoveries.

~ Sister Uyen Chi Dang Brings Joy and Peace to Campers ~



In 2007, at the request of the Bishop of Santa Clara, and after a decade of prayer, planning, and persistence, the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus sent a few sisters to Cuba to reestablish a ministry there. Visiting and caring for the sick, providing prayer services, organizing feast day celebrations, and teaching catechism to children are just a few of the day to day responsibilities undertaken by Sisters Ana Maria Cabo, Maria Eduarda Barata, Lucia Lope Porras (a great, great grandniece of Saint Raphaela), and Yrene Sarmiento. In the summer, they offer a camp for children, who otherwise would be home alone, watching television, or taking to the streets. This is where Sister Uyen Chi comes in. Having had experience teaching at Ancillae-Assumpta Academy, the Handmaids school in Wyncote, Sr. Uyen Chi came well prepared to join the sisters in the camp.

While there were few resources - no board games or jump ropes, no arts and craft supplies or even coloring books, the sisters welcomed one hundred six children from the ages of 4 to 12 years. Their goal was to make the camp educational and fun. They chose as the camp's theme "*Somas personas de paz y alegria*" which means "*We are a people of peace and joy.*" Each day through fun activities, using makeshift supplies such as old water bottles and scraps of paper and cloth, children were engaged in creating works of art. One such creation was "flowers of honesty" which highlighted the virtue of the day. The children in Sr. Uyen Chi's group consisted of thirty-three nine-

Sister Uyen Chi Dang landed in Santa Clara, Cuba, on June 26, 2017 to work with two of the Handmaids missioned there. Little did she know that what was waiting for her was a 10th anniversary celebration of the return of the Handmaids to Cuba. Many years before, from 1949 until 1961, the Handmaids had ministered in Cuba, where they operated Colegio de las Esclavas del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus, a school for girls in Miramar. (Today the school still exists and is operated by the Cuban government as a military school.) In 1961, along with many other religious congregations, the Handmaids were expelled when the Castro regime came into power. Many of the students who attended the school emigrated to Miami, Florida, and continue to be active with the Handmaid ministry there.

"The Cuban people are very warm and welcoming and very faithful. Life is not easy for them but they are happy for the gift that each day brings."

Sr. Uyen Chi Dang

year olds. They had no tables or chairs, but sat happily on the ground as they listened to stories, made memory games, and drew pictures. They learned each day that "peace begins with me."

Sr. Uyen Chi was struck by the young women helping at the camp. She found them to be very positive in their interactions with the children and had clever ideas on how to make the best of limited resources. Realizing this was especially rewarding because these young women were the fruits of the sisters' labor having been some of the first children to be campers with the sisters ten years ago. Mothers and grandmothers were also involved and brought their wisdom and kindness to the camp.

Without a doubt, the camp experience brought a sense of joy and peace to all involved!



~ CALLED TO "GO FORTH" AT ESPERANZA ~

Since graduating from Villanova University in December, 2016, Sr. Oanh Vo took part in a 2-month medical Spanish immersion program in Peru to assist in preparing her for a clinical position that will require her to interface primarily with a Latino community. As a family nurse practitioner she provides primary care including prescribing medications, with a collaborating physician.



Where are you working?

Since May I have been working at Esperanza Health Center, a community clinic that provides integrative health care to those who are underserved in North Philadelphia, most of whom are Spanish-speakers. Founded in 1989 by a very passionate Christian physician, Dr. Caroline Klaus, Esperanza continues to attract those who are passionate with sharing God's love in this healing ministry, "because He has loved us first." (1 Jn 4:19)

What is your role at Esperanza?

My role at Esperanza is one of a family provider, caring for newborns up to a geriatric population. I also provide basic gynecological care. At Esperanza I have my own panel of patients, that is, I am their primary care provider. I really enjoy this way of assigning, because it allows for better provider-patient relationship and therefore better patient outcomes.

What are some highlights of a typical day?

At Esperanza each day brings its own surprises! It's not uncommon to encounter a new patient with a history of multiple chronic illnesses (e.g. diabetes, hypertension, asthma, chronic pain), but without medical care and medications for many months. Since I care for patients across the spectrum, I frequently find myself going between pediatric, geriatric and GYN patients in a day. I really enjoy speaking Spanish, but by the end of the day my brain gets so drained that I often struggle to find the right word. So I get very happy and grateful when I see an English-speaking patient! Also, since there are so many Spanish-speaking patients, I usually start off speaking Spanish until patients tell me otherwise! The most impressive thing about working at Esperanza is its prayerful atmosphere. Three

times a week all employees and volunteers gather for "devotion", during which one person shares his or her faith experience with everyone or lead everyone in prayer for about half an hour. Once a week, we gather in small groups to get to know each other and to pray for each one's needs. When we providers get to our work area and gather with our team for the day, we also pray with each other and for the patients we will see that day. I find this spiritual and communal supports as the foundation and source that lifts us up, nourishes us and gives us strength to face our daily challenges in caring for our very complicated patient populations in our country's not so patient-centered healthcare system.

Do you sometimes see Jesus in the faces of those you serve?

At Esperanza, I do not have to search hard to find Jesus. I encounter Him in my patients when they reach out for help because of their chronic medical illnesses, mental illnesses, suicidal thoughts, addictions, history of abuse, incarceration, broken family, recent family death, lack of health insurance, language barrier, immigration status, lack of employment, lack of transportation, lack of electricity, lack of a cane or a blood pressure machine. I also see Jesus' presence when I witness tears of joy and gratitude coming from those who, although have

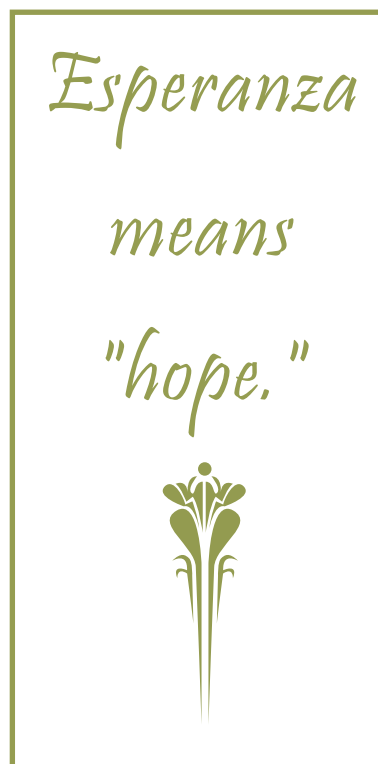
suffered and lost so much, still trust in God and continue to live with hope. I see Jesus in one patient who has lived with chronic pain for years, but is committed to work with me to slowly get off narcotics because he wants to be free. These patients and these life experiences continually remind me how to live the present moment to the fullest, to embrace my vulnerability, and face life always with a grateful heart."

What are some of your challenges and what are you learning?

Time management is my greatest challenge at this time. I have only 20 minutes to see an established patient and 40 minutes with a new patient. It's a struggle everyday for me trying to provide quality, compassionate care while not making my next patient wait too long. I learn that I have to compromise my goals and plans with those of my patients. While I would like my patients do everything I instruct them, I have to allow them to have control of their health. Our medical director recently reminded us providers that we not our patients' parents, rather we are their coaches. This is in line with what I have been instilled in my nursing program, that I am a "facilitator of change." So my goal is to instill hope in my patients and to empower them that it's never too late to change their life and to live healthier and more wholly! Lastly, I try to learn to let go and surrender to Jesus all the burdens and sufferings my patients have to carry, for ultimately He is their primary provider!



Esperanza Health Center is located in North Philadelphia and serves the residents of many neighborhoods in the northern part of the city, including Upper Kensington, Fairhill/St. Hugh, Harrowgate, Hunting Park, Feltonville and Juniata Park.



Is there anything you'd like to add?

I am very grateful to God, my Handmaid congregation, and Esperanza for giving me this opportunity to serve at Esperanza. Our General Congregation XX has called each Handmaid to "go forth", "out of our comfort zone," and to accompany those who are wounded and marginalized "from below, from within, and from beside." How amazing it is to live this call at Esperanza every day, along with so many committed Christians and people of goodwill! In a world filled with so much division, isolation, and hatred, Esperanza is an excellent example of how we can co-labor with God and with one another, despite our differences, to bring healing to bodies and relationships.

Journey of Hope is Celebrated

The *Journey of Hope* is an annual fundraising endeavor organized by the USA Handmaid Province Development Office and the Advisory Board for the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The event offers exposure to the Handmaids in an effort to assist them in furthering their mission and their ministries.



Special commemorations were held for the two longest USA ministries in existence at the 2017 *Journey of Hope*, held at St Raphaela Center on March 29, 2017. Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of Saint Raphaela Center and the 70th Anniversary of Ancillae- Assumpta Academy, tokens of appreciation and remembrance were presented to both ministries, with words of gratitude offered by Sisters Jessica Kerber and Belén Escauriza, and former Advisory Board member Ray Angelo.

Over one hundred and twenty ardent supporters took part in this year's event - a wine tasting that centered on the first locations of the Handmaid communities - Spain, Italy, South and Central America, and the United States. Today the Handmaids have communities on four continents and twenty-three countries. Along with a display of artifacts and other historic memorabilia that offered an educational perspective of the Handmaids and their ministries, guests were provided with authentic fare of the countries and continents represented. A few of the most popular delicacies included pupusa, empanadas, and piña a la parrilla (from El Salvador).



The evening's festivities concluded with a silent auction and a grand prize drawing of a trip for two to Spain.



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Handmaid News and Updates



Sister Catherine Kirwan-Avila made her first profession of vows as a Handmaid of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in January, 2017. Sr. Catherine is now in Madrid, Spain, as she studies and prepares for continuing her commitment as a woman religious.

A Note from Sister Michelle Cimaroli

Sister Michelle Cimaroli has accepted a new ministry that has taken her to Equatorial Guinea. She recently wrote to share her recent experiences there.

"Every day, Equatorial Guinea is starting to feel more like home! With the arrival of our fourth sister, we finally have a complete community to begin the new school year. Each one of us is from a different country: Cameroon, Congo, Spain, and the US. We like to think of ourselves as a mini-UN with a tutti-frutti of languages! Or, as St. Raphaela Mary wanted for the Handmaids: universal like the Church. The diversity of gifts is truly enriching!

Our main ministry is the administration of a school in Nkué, located in a rural part of Guinea. We have students from 4 years old to what would be considered 10th grade in the US, but since many students repeat or miss entire school years due to illness, many grades have a wide range of ages, with some students close to 20 years old. We just began preparing for the upcoming school year by meeting with our teachers to coordinate everything from academics to discipline. As we continue to get students registered, we are looking forward with anticipation to welcoming them back as we begin our

Sister Cam Banh has returned from China, where she had been working with the Jesuit community. She is residing with the Philadelphia community and has secured a position with the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Sister Kayjoy Cooper has returned to the Miami community, where she will be involved in parish pastoral ministry at Corpus Christi parish and its network of five missions, in particular, the Mission of St. Francis and Clare.

Sister Uyen Chi Dang is living with the Haverford community, where she assists with retreat ministry there.

Sister Dona DeMarco is working with the Food Service staff at Ancillae-Assumpta Academy in Wyncote.

Sister Lyan Tri recently completed a two-month formation program in Spiritual Direction and has returned home to the Haverford community.



third year in the country. In addition to fulfilling the various administrative roles, the Handmaids also teach, mostly in the upper grade levels. I will be teaching all of the English classes and one math class, in addition to some other classes to be determined. There is much work ahead as we strive to fulfill our mission of education in service of the Gospel. We count on your continued prayerful support!"

~ In Memoriam ~



Sister Ruth Jane Held, acj was born in Philadelphia, PA to Barbara Waldenberger Held and Leonard Held on July 21, 1920. Her close family were her beloved brother Robert (Bob) and her sister, Sally, with

whom she had a profound spiritual connection in the Catholic faith.

After graduation from John W. Hallahan Catholic Girls' High School with the Class of 1938, she worked some years before entering the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus as a postulant in Cuba, on September 8, 1941. Admitted to the novitiate on March 9, 1942, Sister Ruth made temporary profession of vows in Cuba two years later and returned to the United States to pursue her Bachelor of Arts in English at Rosemont College, followed by her Master of Arts at Villanova University. Sister Ruth made perpetual profession of vows on August 15, 1950, in Wyncote, PA.

She became a teacher of Religion and English, and served as Principal of Ancilla Domini Academy, a high school in Germantown, Philadelphia, from 1953 through 1961. During her tenure there, she taught many young women who would later embrace their vocation with the Handmaid community. She was Superior while she taught and was principal at the School of Saint Basil the Great in Kimberton, PA, 1967-1971. Following her teaching career, Sister Ruth became involved in retreat ministry, working at Saint Raphaela Center, in Haverford, PA from the 1970's through 2012. During this time, she also served as treasurer of both the community and Retreat Center, and also as the Provincial Secretary. She loved both teaching and retreat ministry and will be missed by the Handmaids, as well as by many nephews and nieces and their children, and cousins.

Sister Rose Harmsen, acj was born in Arequipa, Peru, on February 18, 1923. After a few short years in Peru, Argentina, and Panama, would spend the rest of her long life in the USA. Rose loved her country, and with immense



tenderness and joy would remember vividly and sing songs to her beloved Arequipa - the best city in the world.

A gentle and unassuming Handmaid, Sr. Rose radiated Christian love. With an artist's sensitivity, Rose was deeply moved by beauty, be it in nature, music, literature, or friendship. Above all, she was moved by God, who loves us unconditionally. She was a magnet for the little ones who gathered around her. She would whisper to them short prayers which held them spellbound. She was equally popular with the older students, who would invite her to their dances and graduations. Sr. Rose looked at the world and others through the lens of love. This transformation took place over a lifetime: from youth through old age, through changes in ministries, in relationships and in life circumstances. How amazing that she died on the feast of Saint Rose of Lima!

Sr. Rose taught in the Handmaid schools in Germantown and Wyncote as well as in a parochial school in Baltimore; she was part of the Retreat Center staff in Haverford, engaged in parish ministry in North Philadelphia and in Charlotte, NC, and did pastoral work with undocumented Hispanics in Miami. Because she was anchored by an appreciation of her own dignity, she developed an appreciation of the aspirations, potential and dignity of others. It was very moving to see the concern and genuine care Sr. Rose had for her former students as well as for the people she met in different ministries. She not only prayed for them, she followed them closely, rejoiced with their achievements, and suffered with their pain. Sr. Rose will be deeply missed by the Handmaids and many nieces and nephews.

Annual Fund Donors

St. Raphaela Mary Society

(\$10,000 to \$25,000)

Ward and Kathy Fitzgerald

Handmaid Society

(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Chuck and Betsy Minnich

In memory of John Seydow

Circle of Compassion

(\$1,000 to \$4,999)

Ray and Carol Angelo

Ana Arango

Jeffrey Barker

In honor of Sr. Gloria Petrone, acj

Michael and Mary Beth Beck

In honor of Dorothy Beck, acj

Patty Crognale

In memory of Stephen Crognale

Joe and Jean Eble

Donald and Theresa Ferrari

Joe and Donna Ferrier

Jacques and Marie Gordon

Sid and Helena Gosser

In memory of Charles and Mary Wisocky

In honor of Barbara Smith

Terry and Jeanne Hisey

In memory of Dorothy Borkowski

K-Ten Kids Foundation

In honor of Katie Keating

Wes and Crystal Kuehnle

Ed and Loretta Lemanowicz

Maggie McGill

Roxana Medina

John Moran

In memory of Joyce Moran

Jim and Siobhan Morrissey

David and Mary Reid

Natalia Salies

Deacon David Schaffer

Jack and Peggy Seydow

Michael and Nancy Valucci

Jeannette Velazquez

Circle of Joy

(\$500 to \$999)

John and Ann Marie Borneman

Michael Cipollone

In memory of Lena Cipollone

Bernard Dauenhauer and Jean Friedman

Orlando and Holly Esposito

Paschal and Carol Gazzillo

In memory of Charles and Angeline Gazzillo

and In honor of the Gazillo, Holbrook, and

Bucelli Families

Lisa Greatti

In memory of Gino Greatti

Archbishop Wilton Gregory

Ken and Pat Kempf

Bruce and Kate Langsen

In honor of Catherine Kirwan-Avila

Suzanne McGowan

Rosalie Narducci

In memory of Denise Narducci and

in honor of the Narducci Family

David and Carol Roccato

Michael and Laura Savage

Fred and Susan Singer

In memory of Gino Greatti

Robert Solorio

Tri and Dung Vo

Circle of Hospitality

(\$250 to \$499)

Anonymous

Bill and Anne Arnold

Ken and Joan Banks

In memory of Sr. Connie Redmond, acj

and Sr. Brigid McGarvey, acj

Edward and Jackie Burgoyne

Mike and Beth Ann Cavanaugh

Joe and Colleen Coll

In memory of Moira Coll

Michael and Regina (Ventresca ADA '67) Creedon

David and Stephanie D'Arcangelo

George Gaynor and Anita Alvare

In memory of deceased members of

the Alvare Family

Len and Shareen Helbig

In memory of Leonard and Marie Helbig

Rita Higgins

Marty and Maureen Howe

In memory of Mary C. Perrotto and

In honor of Uyen Chi Dang, acj

George Hud and Oksana Baltarowich

John Cipollone Oil and Heat

Gary and Mary Lamsback

Imelda Lopez

In memory of Julio Lopez and

In honor of Sr. Kayjoy Cooper, acj

and Sr. Sagrario Nunez, acj

Caroline Mancini

Mike and Deirdre Marino

Tim and Jen Marler

In honor of Michelle Cimaroli, acj

Frank May and Cindy Fitzpatrick

Patrick McMenamin

In memory of Kirnan J. Timoney

Silvia Nilsen

In memory of Hortensia Silva Villalon

Kelli Powell

In honor of Catherine Kirwan-Avila

Mary Scott

Mary Tompkins Sowney

In memory of Elizabeth McCoy, acj

William R. May Funeral Home

In memory of William and Mary May

David and Francine Wirsching

Christopher Wright

In memory of Sr. Maria Aurora

Dolores Zodda

In memory of Deni M. Zodda

Circle of Humility

(\$100 to \$249)

Tom and Donna Armstrong

Felix and Pierette Barker

Michael and Millicent Basile

John and Phyllis Beck

In memory of Ernie and Dorothy Beck

Jason and Rose Boutilier

In memory of Bro. James Donahue, O.C.S.O.

Joe and Arlene Carrello

Virato and Virginia Carrillo

In memory of and In honor of the

Handmaids

Jackie Catalina

In memory of Betty Skrodenis & Elaine

Forcino and In honor of Dorothy Beck, acj

Virginia Chen

Eugene and Claire Chovanes

Joe and Nancy Ciasullo

Carol Cinelli

Andrew and Madeleine Costigan

In memory of Elizabeth McCoy, acj

Paul and Nancy Cushing

Tom Daily

In memory of Richard (Mac) McNally

Ha and Thu Dinh

In memory of Maria Chieu Nguyen

Emily DiPietro

In memory of and In honor of the

DiPietro and Winter Families

Larry and Marian Dondero

In memory of Elizabeth McCoy, acj

Annual Fund Donors

Gary and Mary Farley
In honor of Lawanda Sheridan
 Kim Finnerty
 Ed and Kathy Flood
In memory of Glen G. Flood
 Most Reverend Joseph Galante
In honor of Margaret Scott, acj and
Sagrario Nunez, acj
 Jay and Tish Gardner
In memory of Mary Segal and In
honor of the Handmaids
 Greg Geruson and Eileen Kelly
 Jerry and Anita Gillespie
In honor of Maureen Gillespie, acj
 Alan and Thea Gordon
In memory of Theresa Gordon and
Theodora Vinci
 Kathryn Gray
In memory of Ruth Held, acj
 Joan Hadden
 Meg Hegener
 Barbara Higgins
In memory of Emilie & John Higgins
 James Holterman
 Robin Kingston
 David and Beth. Kirwan
In honor of Catherine Kirwan-
Aviila's First Profession
 Elizabeth Koster

Art and Judy Krol
In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Francis Reeves
 Chris and Effie Lucarini
 Joseph Mahady
 Jim and Sharon Mahar
 Michael and Mary Kim McCormick
 William and Pat McDonough
 Reverend Henry McKee
 Pearl McKelvie
In memory of John T. McKelvie
 Bill and Kathy McKeown
In memory of Elizabeth McCoy, acj
 Jim and Jeanne McLaughlin
 Reverend John P. McNamee
 Mike and Alice Meehan
 Max and Isabella Mercado
 Maria Cristina Miranda
 Bernard and Marguerite Mitchell
In memory of deceased members of the
Mitchell and Russo Families
 Michael and Susan Murphy
In memory of Elizabeth McCoy, acj
 James and Eleanor S. Nally
 Ginny Neumer
 Reverend Michael Olivere
 Joanne Petrone
 Kathy Petrone
 Pew Trust
 George Pirrone
In memory of George Pirrone, Sr.
 Tom and Liz Prendergast

Rick Milano Auto Repair
 Wendy Ricker
 † Ralph and Toni Romano
In honor of Catherine Kirwan-
Avila's First Profession
 Tom and Lisa Santilli
 Mary Schott
 Frank and Ann Marie Sellitto
 Lawanda Sheridan
In memory of Joseph Sheridan and the
Sheridan and Wilson Families
 Katherine Sherman
 Richard and Elaine Simpson
In memory of Philomena Monte, acj
 Magdalen Sorendino
 Dolores Sweeney
 Chuong and Phuong Trinh
 Teresita Vilar
In memory of Alfredo Vilar
 Catherine Vizuete
In memory of Lizardo Vizuete
 Thang and Lan Vo
 James and Nancy Whiteman
In memory of Berenice and Theodore DeCerchio
 Tom and Gloria Zannis
In memory of deceased members of the
Wherrity Family
 Joel and Roseanne Ziff
 Howard Zinschlag

† indicates deceased



Pope Francis visited the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Rome in January, 2017.

Annual Fund Donors

Circle of Simplicity

(Gifts to \$99)

Ronnie Arata

*In memory of John and Marie Arata and
in honor of Kayjoy Cooper, acj*

Donna Baudo

Ernie and Betty Beck

In memory of Ernie and Dorothy Beck

Ann Bell

*In memory of Martin Alcott and
in honor of Asa James Rambo*

Nicoletta Bellapigna

Salvatore and Deborah Bianco

Anne Bovee, ADA '66

Joe Bradley

Kate Brogan

In honor of Dennis Brogan

Ed and Dianne Carmody

In memory of Elizabeth McCoy, acj

Mary Carney

In memory of Carol Seccia

Nathalie Chavez

Angela Cimino, ADA '70

William and Rita Clark

In honor of Dorothy Beck, acj

Rita Defelippes

In memory of Elizabeth McCoy, acj

Joanne DeSimone, ADA '75

Rocco and Rosemary Di Taranto

Dorothea DiGiovanni

Angelina DiMedio

Ronald Dombroski

Neil and Bernadette (Keefe ADA '58) Dougherty

In memory of Richard Brill

Ron and Barbara Endo

Eduardo and Jacqueline Ervesun

In memory of Mary Valdes and

In honor of St. Raphaela Mary

Ray and Linda Facciolo

Josephine Fletcher

Genevieve Giangolio

Mary Jane Gibbons

Frank and Ada Gil

Sheila Gillespie

Mary Harbison

Catherine Harvey

In memory of Joe and Peggy Rein

Raul and Beatriz Herrero

Mary Herron

In honor of Dorothy Beck, acj

Jerry and Kathy Holdsman

Joann James

In memory of Jane Anderson, acj



Ancilla Domini Academy alumnae were guests at a liturgy and reception held on December 4, 2016 at Saint Raphaela Center in Haverford.

Lois John

In memory of William S. John, Jr.

Samuel and Dorothy Jones

In memory of Laura and Vincent Nowicki

Henry and Marie Knight

*In memory of Betty Murphy and
Bud Knight*

Katherine Langan

In memory of the Langan Family

Sr. Natalie Lariccia

Mildred Lester

Kathryn Magargee

Beatriz McDaniel

In memory of Adela Maduro

Jeff and Molly Mc Donnell

Larry and Maureen McElroy

John McGarry

Ana Maria McKee

In memory of Philomena Monte, acj

Ann McLaughlin

In memory of David McLaughlin

Silvia Mendive

*In honor of husband, children,
and grandchildren*

Jennifer Mohl

In memory of Richard Calhoun

Mary Morris

Tom and Roseanne Murphy

In memory of Elizabeth McCoy, acj

David and Wendy Newdeck

Reverend John Newns

Helen Novielli

In memory of Rosemarie Julien

Sean and Anne O'Callaghan

Marianne O'Connor

Linda O'Donnell

Theresa Bogue O'Donnell

Vanessa Oksuker

Victor and Susan (Primus ADA '75) Peracchia

Connie Perna

Lenore Perrott

In honor of Sr. Julie Grey

Stanley and Marita Podder

In honor of Anne S. Williams

Joan Pudimott

In memory of Bernard Pudimott and

In honor of Margaret Longe

Allison Raabe

In honor of Catherine Kirwan- Avila

Joe and Angie Ryan

Jose and Josephina Salazar

In memory of Max and Josefina Borges

Diane Schwartz

Annamae Sheridan

Claudia Skrodenis

In memory of Betty Skrodenis

Joan Smallwood

Wade and Maureen Thompson

Tony and Mary Alice Tinari

In honor of Connie Redmond, acj,

Margaret Noble, acj, and

Elizabeth McCoy, acj

Irene Turzer

In memory of Claudia Geppert

Tom and Sarah Walsh

In memory of Brigid McGarvey, acj

Steve and Jane Zegestowsky

Miriam Zimmer

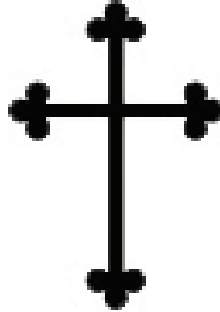
Memorial Donors & Gifts in Kind

At the request of the family of the deceased, the following contributions were made to the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province. Through this generosity, we hope to perpetually honor the memory of our family members and friends.

*In memory of Ralph Romano
July 29, 2017*

American Institute for Research

Anita Alvare
John and Sue Bergonzi
William and Clare Bohnett
Carol Buono
Joan Collier
Tom Connelly
John and Joann DiBenedetto
Al and Rosemary Dominick
Paul Dunphy
Vincent and Joan Durning
Helene Eckrich
Robert and Cheryl Fryer
Joe and Rita Geddes
Lisa Greatti
Joanne Romano Guiniven
Rodie Henson
Judith Hoechner
Marty and Maureen Howe
Jane Johnston
Dolores Juska
Eileen Kennedy



Jonathan Early & D.C. Kickball Team

Gary and Mary Lamsback
Kirsten Landreth
Veronica Luke
Glen and Grace Morris
Richard and Betsey Novosel
Dave and Amy Reynolds
Agnes Romano
Betty Romano
Christina, Alissa, Nicole, Justin, Elena,
Charlotte, and Felicity Romano
Jim and Maryann Romano
Carol Roth, Shelly Reisman,
Sheryl Shapiro, and Annette Ross
Mary Catherine Rybas
Jim and Diane Sands
Deacon David Schaffer
Service Electric Cablevision
Fred, Susan, Amanda, and Andrew Singer
Ray and Claire Tatlow
Dwight and Marysue Walter

The Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus are deeply grateful for non-cash gifts which were received during 2016-2017.

*Ancillae-Assumpta Academy
Anonymous
Jeffrey W. Barker
Kim Finnerty
Jacques and Marie Gordon
Grand Opera House, Wilmington, DE
Lisa Greatti
Joanne Romano Guiniven
Martin and Maureen Howe*

*Lynette Kyle
Mapes True Value
Michael and Deirdre Marino
Merit Metal
Print Partners
† Ralph and Toni Romano
Fred and Susan Singer
St. Raphaela Center
Adam and Lori Stefanowicz
Michael and Nancy Valucci*

† indicates deceased



Grants and Year End Information

During the 2016-2017 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 in the amount of \$10,000 for the Formation Program.

The **Connelly Foundation** provided a grant in the amount of \$22,925 for Saint Raphaela Center.

Ms. Kaval Gulhati provided a \$2,000 grant for unrestricted use by the USA Province.

The **Koch Foundation** provided a grant in the amount of \$10,000 for the Formation Program.

The **Koch Foundation** provided a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to support the Formation Program for sisters in Africa.

GRANTS

The **National Religious Retirement Office** provided a grant of \$35,610.49 for retired sisters.

The **PHA Interdiocesan Fund for Religious** provided \$6,450 for retired sisters.

The **Sisters of Charity** provided a grant of \$5,000 for the mission in El Salvador.

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

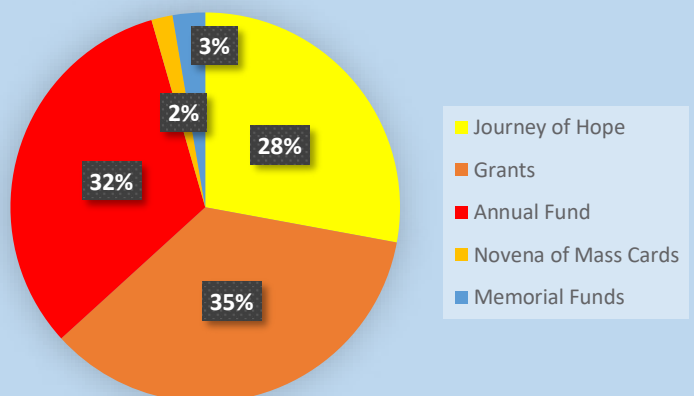
The **Sullivan Family Charitable Fund** also provided a \$2,000 grant for unrestricted use by the USA Province.

YEAR END TOTALS

2016-2017

Fundraising Income	\$ 86,803.51
Grants	\$109,985.49
Annual Fund	\$100,543.11
Novena of Mass Cards	\$ 5,481.00
Memorials	\$ <u>8,366.25</u>
 TOTAL	 \$311,179.36

2016-2017 Contributions and Gifts



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
Aged and Infirm	42,060.49	12,446	5,481 (Novena of Masses)	59,987.49
Athens	4,000	750		4,750
Cuba Project		55		55
Formation	22,000	7,325		29,325
Formation in Africa	10,000			10,000
Phillipines		450		450
Project FIAT	5,000	16,700.68		21,700.68
Province General Operating	4,000	47,889.50	86,803.51 (Journey of Hope) 5,950 (Memorial Gifts)	144,643.01
St. Raphaela Center	22,925	14,926.93	2,416.25 (Memorial Gifts)	40,268.18
TOTAL	\$109,985.49	\$100,543.11	\$ 100,650.76	\$311,179.36

To Contribute to the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province, you may:

- Remit a check by mail to the: Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province Development Office
616 Coopertown Road Haverford, PA 19041
- Contribute on-line through Network for Good
- One-time or recurring contributions can be set up and managed through our website, www.acjusa.org.

Improvements to Saint Raphaela Center



The Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus are pleased to announce that the Connelly Foundation has awarded a grant to Saint Raphaela Center to expand and enhance the wireless accessibility for retreatants, visitors, staff, and sisters in Haverford, PA. Through the foundation's generosity, those inquiring about the retreat center's wireless capability can be assured that they will be met with dependable, secure, and efficient computer technology offerings. This grant also provides for an improvement in the retreat house management system that makes

online registration simple and seamless, and offers the opportunity for greatly improved communication between staff and visitors. Thank you to the Connelly Foundation for helping the Handmaids enhance the present and plan for the future with these upgrades.



The kitchen utility room in the Saint Raphaela Center has been renovated to provide greater functionality and equipment accessibility. New flooring, cabinets, ceramic tile backsplash, countertops, and a fresh coat of paint have enhanced the look and use of the space.

One of the newest offerings at the Saint Raphaela Center has been the installation of an outdoor firepit. The gift was made to commemorate the center's 60th anniversary, and was inaugurated by the Handmaids during the annual renewal days held in August, 2017. Future enhancements to the outdoor space will include several adirondack chairs and benches where visitors and retreatants will be provided with an additional area for contemplation and reflection.



Donors to Saint Raphaela Center

SRC Major Gifts (\$500 and above)

Chris and Susan Cameron
In memory of Sister Ruth Held, acj
Civitas Architects
Rev. Bernard C. Farley
Ward and Kathy Fitzgerald
K Ten Kids Foundation
David McNamee
In memory of Kathy McNamee
Deacon David Schaffer
Katherine Sherman
Kathleen Tellis

Gifts (\$100 to \$499)

Loretta Chang
Regina (Ventresca ADA '67) Creedon
Maria Diesel
Megan Dietzler
Judy Domanico
Katherine Gray
Jeff Klein
G. Wesley and Crystal Kuehnle.
Abby Lang
Reverend John Lyons
Cookie Magee
Caroline Mancini
Rosa McLoda
Thomas Rafferty
Magdalen Sorendino
Huyen Trinh



Some of those listed as donors have designated their contributions from the Handmaids, USA Province. to Saint Raphaela Center.

Gifts (to \$99)

Sr. Janice Bader
Donna Baudo
Dorothy Bauer
Eric Bause
Sr. Miriam Bernard, SSJ
Anne Bovee, ADA '66
Dolores Brough
Eugene and Claire Chovanes
Angela Cimino, ADA '70
Louis and Mary Ann De Angelo
Carole DeBernardi
Joanne DeSimone, ADA '75
Bernadette (Keefe ADA '58) Dougherty
Marie Fleming
Christine Hennessey
Mary Herron
Veronica Luke
Terry Lyons
Mary Jane Magee
Diane Maguire
Terry McDevitt
Michael and Lu Ann McKenna
In memory of Dan Carboy
Reverend John P. McNamee
Joanne McNaney
Patricia Mehalick
Maureen Mulhall
Maria Orellano
John O'Shea
Susan (Primus ADA '75) Peracchia
Stanley and Marita Podder
Julia Saunders
Mary Starr
Elizabeth Stewart
June Stolnis
Andrea Sysol
Mother Theresa, RCS
Rev. Samuel Verruni
Carol Wilson

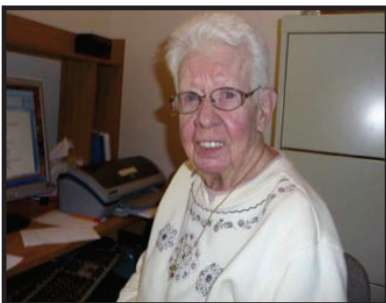
At the request of the family of the deceased, the following contributions were made to the Saint Raphaela Center. Through this generosity, we hope to perpetually honor the memory of our family members and friends.

In memory of Ruth Held October 25, 2016

Ann Ahn
Ernie and Betty Beck
Carol Buono
Chris and Susan Cameron
Emily DiPietro
Helen Farnon
Susan M. Kincade
Carol Lingle
John and Rosemary Lutz
Mary Jane Magee
Virginia McDonald
Lawanda Sheridan
Irene Turzer
Joseph and Lucille Waldenberger

In memory of Helen Larkin March 13, 2017

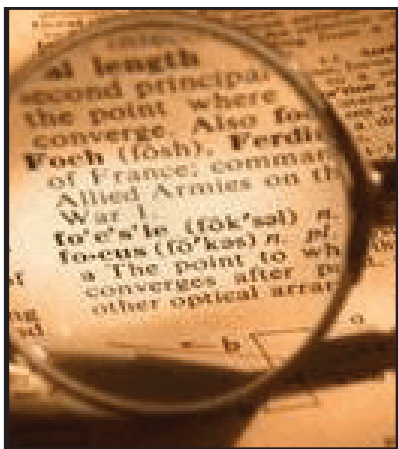
Regina Costa
Rose Marie Grahn Knight
Mark and Susan Larkin
Thomas Larkin
Thomas and Lynn Larkin
Donald Quintal
Joseph and Maureen Wall
William Wall



With gratitude and love, the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus remember Sr. Theresa Suplick, SSJ, who entered into eternal rest on May 25, 2017. Sr. Theresa worked at St. Raphaela Center for many years, and then continued as a volunteer, faithfully serving as a receptionist every Monday and Wednesday. Having celebrated her 90th birthday, Sr. Theresa moved to St. Joseph Villa where she continued to live a life of prayerful presence, continuing to remember in prayer all of those she met while ministering here with us. Her smile and joyful welcome are remembered continuously by Sisters and retreatants alike. May she rest in peace.

ST. RAPHAELA CENTER

A PLACE AND A TIME FOR GOD
A Ministry of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus



**Take a look at
our programs...**

Centering Prayer Group

Oct 9, 2017 - 10:30am to 12:00pm
Every Monday starting September 25 until December 18,
2017

Personal Day of Prayer

October 10 - 10:00am
2nd Tuesday of Every Month

Monthly Taizé with Nocturnal Adoration

October 11 - 7:30pm
Every 2nd Wednesday

Widows and Widowers

November 8 - 9:30am
Come to a Day of Reflection and Prayer!

Advent Day of Prayer

Dec 6, 2017 - 9:00am to 3:00pm
Director: Rev. Jim McBurney, OSA

Advent Directed Retreat - Weekend

December 8 to December 10
All Directors Available

Advent Directed Retreat - Extended

December 8 to December 15
All Directors Available

New Year's Eve Overnight Retreat

December 31 to January 1
Presenter: Rev. Bernard Farley

Women's Weekend Retreat I

January 12 to January 14
Presenters: Sister Mary Carboy, SSJ and
Rev. John Jagodzinski

Winter Directed Retreat - Weekend

January 26 to January 28
Directors: Sr. Mary Carboy, SSJ, Sr. Uyen-Chi Dang, ACJ, Sr. Jessica
Kerber, ACJ, Sr. Lyan Tri, ACJ, Sr. Maria McCoy, SSJ

Winter Directed Retreat - Extended

January 26 to February 2
Directors: Sr. Mary Carboy, SSJ, Sr. Uyen-Chi Dang, ACJ, Sr. Jessica
Kerber, ACJ, Sr. Lyan Tri, ACJ, Sr. Maria McCoy, SSJ

Lenten Day of Prayer

Feb 28, 2018 - 9:00am to 3:00pm
Director: Rev. Jim McBurney, OSA

Celtic Day of Prayer

Mar 15, 2018 - 9:00am to 3:00pm
"Celtic Holy Women: Courageous and Wise"

Women's Weekend Retreat II

March 23 to March 25
Palm Sunday Weekend

Women's Weekend Retreat III

April 6 to April 8
"Life in the Risen Lord"

Summer Directed Retreat I

July 13 to July 20
Directed by St. Raphaela Center staff

**For information, visit
www.straphaelacenter.org
or phone (610) 642-5715**

how can you help?

annual fund

Our Annual Fund helps provide support for general operating expenses, formation, and the care of our senior sisters. The campaign extends from September 1 through August 31 of each year.

foundation support

If you or a family member has established a foundation, contributions to the Handmaids may be made through your foundation.

if you serve on the board of a foundation, or if your employer has a foundation, please make us aware. Opportunities for grants are often available to organizations such as the Handmaids.

planned giving

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.

events

The *Journey of Hope* is quickly becoming the “signature” event benefitting the USA Province of the Handmaids. A great opportunity for getting together with friends and contributors, the event offers a variety of ways to support the Handmaids. If you would like to host or sponsor an event to benefit the Handmaids, please contact us.

matching gifts

You can double or triple your support by designating the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province as the recipient of matching funds when your employer has a Matching Gift Program. Please check with your employer to determine whether a Matching Gift Program is offered.

memorial bequests

Oftentimes when a loved one dies, the family wants to memorialize their loved one in a significant and meaningful way. One of the simplest ways to do this is to request that contributions in memory of your loved one be designated to the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA Province.

208

number of days

until the

2018 Journey of Hope

70

THE NUMBER OF YEARS
OF THE OLDEST USA
HANDMAID MINISTRY
(ANCILLAE-ASSUMPTA
ACADEMY)



11

Number of
grants received
during
2016-2017



6

number of
Journey of Hope
events held



32

number of
Handmaids
serving in the
United States



Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
USA Province Development Office
616 Coopertown Road
Haverford, PA 19041
www.acjusa.org

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit No. 2303
Jenkintown, PA

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

SAVE THE DATE

