About this issue . . .

Our Spring 2019 edition focuses on Loretto in El Paso—a remarkable legacy unbroken from the 19th century to the present.

Mary Margaret Murphy SL, Loretto’s newly-elected Vice President, has spent much of her life providing support to those in need in Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico and Texas. Recently, Mary Margaret’s work has shifted from Villa Maria, a shelter for homeless women, to nurturing and assisting the Community’s young volunteers in El Paso. Page 6.

The early days were challenging but the sisters were tenacious. In 1879 they opened their first school near El Paso: St. Joseph’s in San Elizario. They went on to teach at numerous parochial schools in El Paso. Page 8.

Loretto Academy, opened in 1924, and built largely through the persistence of Mother Praxedes Carty, continues its tradition of providing an excellent education as its 100th anniversary approaches. Page 12.

Loretto community members provide much-needed help at the shelters in El Paso that are overflowing with immigrants. At the Motherhouse, volunteers prepare bags of necessities for immigrants traveling to and through Louisville. Page 14.

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LORETTO COMMUNITY
Sisters of Loretto • Co-members of Loretto

We work for justice and act for peace because the Gospel urges us.

Loretto Community members teach, nurse, care for the elderly, lobby, minister in hospitals, provide spiritual direction and counseling, resettle refugees, staff parishes, try to stop this country’s nuclear weapons build-up, work with the rural poor, and minister to handicapped, alcoholic and mentally ill adults. Our ministries are diverse.

The Loretto Community, founded in 1812 as the Sisters of Loretto, is a congregation of Catholic vowed Sisters and both lay and religious Co-members. Loretto Co-members are those who, by mutual commitment, belong to the Community through a sharing of spirit and values and participating in activities that further our mission.

For more information contact:
Loretto Community Membership Staff
4000 So. Wadsworth Blvd.
Littleton, CO 80123-1308
Phone: 303-783-0450
Fax: 303-783-0611
Web: www.lorettocommunity.org

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Development Director: Denise Ann Clifford SL
Communications Director: Jean M. Schildz
Editing, Layout, and Production: Christina Manweller
Advisor: Marlene Spero SL
Financial Accountant: Brenda Blankenship
Special Development Projects: Lydia Peña SL

Editorial Office:
Loretto Central Office
4000 So. Wadsworth Blvd.
Littleton, CO 80123-1308
303-783-0450

Circulation Office:
Loretto Staff Office
9201 Watson Road, Suite 220
St. Louis, MO 63126
314-962-8112
It is my privilege as the newest president of the Sisters of Loretto and Loretto Community to greet you via *Loretto Magazine*. Our editor, Christina Manweller, is also new to the role and she has done a great job with this, her first edition. We hope that the material presented here is interesting and engages you with up-to-date contact with Loretto members actively engaged in mission activities even as, all the while, we acknowledge that the underlying basis of Loretto life is recognition that God provides always. *Deus providet!* You, our readers and provident benefactors, are the supports on whom we rely.

Let me invite you to be in touch with us if some story particularly appeals to you, or as you recognize a Loretto member pictured here, or you recall your own fond memories of times and places where you connected. Share those memories with us. We love hearing from you!

Last July when Loretto was gathered in Assembly in Shepherdsville, Kentucky, and the elections had been completed, Sister Pearl asked me to say a few words. The best I could do in that unexpected moment was to promise and to ask for prayers of blessing for one another always: first thing in the morning and the last thing at night. May we all, always, know those blessings.

Sincerely,

*B Barbara Nicholas SL*  
President

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*The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,*  
*the desert shall rejoice and blossom*  

*Isaiah 35:1*
Pancratia Hall on Loretto Heights College campus becomes apartment housing

By Mary Nelle Gage SL

Pancratia Hall, former dormitory and classroom building on the historic Loretto Heights College campus, built in 1929, will be transformed to create 65 affordable family apartments with adjacent courtyard. Some Loretto Heights alumnae, Sisters and Co-members toured Pan Hall in February, finding their old dorm rooms and telling tales of their college years. The team from Hartman Ely Investments described their plans to adapt the historic building into new uses for a stately affordable housing community. Barbara Fitzgerald (LHC ’68) wrote in response: “... know how I treasure my time there in the past. It is good to know the history of such an amazing place will live on with future residents. I hope they experience as much happiness there as I did.”

Tibetan monks visit Motherhouse

Exiled Tibetan monks from Labrang Tashi Kyil Monastery in Debra Dun, India, visited Kentucky in February, stopping by the Motherhouse for breakfast and a visit. They popped into the Infirmary, chanted blessings in the activity room and the church, joked with the postmaster, and were on their way to the Abbey of Gethsemani.

Thanks to Anndavid Naeger SL for details and photo.

Motherhouse Infirmary recognized

The Loretto Infirmary received the Eli Pick Facility Leadership Award from the American College of Health Care Administrators for excellence in these areas: overall quality; staffing; and RN Staffing (exceeding the minimum staff hours per resident).

Congratulations to Michelle Essex, Loretto Infirmary Administrator, and the staff of the Infirmary.
El Paso Nun Run 2019 a success

By Jane German CoL

On Saturday, February 2, 2019, the senior class at Loretto Academy sponsored the Nun Run. The run has become an annual event to raise money for the Loretto Pakistan Mission. Each senior is asked to recruit 10 or more participants.

Some seniors dress as nuns and welcome the competitive runners, non-competitive runners, walkers, family groups and dogs. The competitive runners take off first, running against the clock. The other participants go more leisurely.

Sisters in El Paso honored

By Helen Santamaria SL

The Father Rahm Award is an annual recognition of person(s) who have made incredible contributions to the Segundo Barrio, a downtown El Paso neighborhood immediately adjacent to the U.S./Mexican border. The SLs taught in all of the schools as they were being built in the 1900s. It is also where Villa Maria is located. The award is a strategic outreach program of Sacred Heart Parish which is also in the barrio.

Loretto Heritage Center remediation work completed

Last fall, mold was discovered beneath the hardwood floors in the Loretto Heritage Center at the Motherhouse. An urgent remediation project ensued. Archival documents were stored at the Dominican sisters’ St. Catharine Motherhouse and 1500 square feet of hardwood floor was removed and replaced. Joists were scrubbed, then painted with an anti-microbial agent. Insulation was added and fans and sensors installed to protect against a recurrence. Documents were retrieved and moved in by late February; Eleanor Craig SL and her archives team breathed a big sigh of relief.
Mary Margaret Murphy SL, Loretto’s new Vice President, laughs as she recalls some of her Machebeuf High School friends talking about entering religious life. Back then, her retort was “Thank you, God. That’s not for me.” But she fondly recalls being deeply touched by the faith, spirit, joy and dedication of the sisters at Machebeuf. That is what drew her to them and to their way of life. Now, 54 years later, her heart is filled with gratitude as a Sister of Loretto and humbled by her recent election to Vice President of the community. Her mantra is: “God-given talents are to be shared with others.”

A profound experience in the Loretto novitiate was the summers Mary Margaret spent with the Hispanic migrant laborers in Colorado and Wyoming. During the day, the novices would care for the migrant children in day care centers. During the evenings, they visited the families in the labor camps. Weekends were spent celebrating spirited liturgies, sharing in potluck meals, singing and dancing. Here, Mary Margaret’s life was immersed in theirs. She was struck by the beauty of the Hispanic culture and faith. Her ministry to them has been a passion throughout her life.

As a brand-new first-grade teacher in Taos, New Mexico, she was under the gifted tutelage of Sr. Angelus Caron. Mary Margaret was at first surprised at the multi-cultural composition of her students. She immediately opened herself to learning through the challenge and inspiration that were presented. At the beginning of the school year, she and another teacher decided to spend their Sundays visiting the homes of their students. The rich insights they gained from the families had direct impact upon their approach to being with the children.

Mary Margaret’s call to be with Hispanic people led her to Rawlins, Wyoming, where she assisted with the development of a Head Start day care center. Since this was the only early childhood learning center in Rawlins, the Anglos crossed the bridge into the Hispanic barrio where all were welcomed and lovingly cared for. She continued this work when she move to Pueblo, Colorado, and became director of the newly-founded Eastwood Center located in two Housing Authorities houses.

In 1977, she moved to the San Luis Valley in rural Colorado, which became her home for the next 27 years. She became deeply rooted in the lives of the people who were culturally rich but financially limited. Through advocacy for the elderly, and case management for the sick and disabled, Mary Margaret provided direct services to improve their quality of life. This stretched her to look at systemic changes and moved her to community organizing. Memories of these years fill her with gratitude for the people who welcomed her into their homes and their lives, who allowed her to be present with them in both vulnerable and joyful times, who blessed her with their faith and love.

The next chapter of her life began in 2004, when she, Liz Deines, Eva Maria Salas and Jean Kelley moved to the straw-bale houses in Sunland Park New Mexico, and a few years later relocated to El Paso. She joined Helen

“I’ve been given so much.

Whatever I am able to return, I am grateful for the opportunity to do it.”
Villa Maria: a haven for vulnerable women

Villa Maria offers intensive support to women who have been homeless, and who have often been victims of domestic violence or sexual abuse. Mary Margaret Murphy SL’s time at the shelter became yet another chance to live, as she describes it, “The example of Jesus in the Gospel that says this is what you are to do and how you are to be.”

Called a “sanctuary” and a “house of miracles” by those whose lives have been changed at the home, residents are provided access to counseling, substance abuse recovery assistance, GED and ESL classes, employment training, financial counseling, medical and mental health care, and most important, a genuine chance to change their lives. Given a safe place to live, nutritious meals and the opportunity to set and meet life goals, in return, they work to meet their goals, follow house rules and perform chores. The women are required to remain drug and alcohol free and participate in case management. 85% of the residents leave Villa Maria with an income and affordable housing.

“Villa Maria was life-changing for me,” Mary Margaret says. “To really know the stories of people has helped me realize the need to be nonjudgmental, to have an understanding of why some ways of being and acting are there. I was inspired by the faith that so many of the women at Villa Maria have and how they shared that with me.”

Many of the women have lived for years with untreated medical and mental health issues. Many struggle with addictions arising in reaction to abuse. “One woman with a strong addiction to alcohol asked me to pray with her and for her for strength and courage every morning before she went out into the world.”

Awed by the women’s faith and determination, Mary Margaret says, “I worked directly on a very intensive level with the women to help them overcome what had happened in their lives. Where did they get the strength? These were women who had tremendous struggles in their lives but their courage to move forward was amazing.”

Santamaria in opening El Paso Villa Maria, a beautiful and safe shelter for women who are homeless. For 12 years, Mary Margaret assisted the guests to access the essential services they each needed on their journey from crisis to healing. In turn, they taught her the meaning of courage and of unshakable reliance on God.

Now, Mary Margaret is coordinator of the Loretto Volunteer program in El Paso. She provides her presence and support to five young adults who recently graduated from college and came to give one year of service to five non-profit agencies. Equally important to sharing their gifts of time and talent is their commitment to community, simplicity, justice and spirituality.

In El Paso, she is also living the reality of immigrants in the detention center: of mothers and fathers with their children arriving at the border, fleeing violence and arriving with only their hope for a safe life, and of volunteers who welcome the immigrants with love and compassion, provide for their basic needs and prepare them for their journey to join family or friends in the United States.

Loretto has blessed Mary Margaret with an ongoing deepening awareness of who God is in her life and who this calls her to be. Loretto has gifted her with an understanding of what it means to live focused on a preferential option for the poor and has stretched her to work for justice and act for peace. Throughout her life, she has drawn strength from, and has been modified by, the Loretto Community, especially those she has lived and worked with. In addition, her life has been forever changed because of what she learned from the people she was blessed to be with at: migrant labor camps; Taos and Sunland Park, New Mexico; Rawlins, Wyoming; Pueblo and La Jara, Colorado and El Paso, Texas.

Mary Margaret Murphy SL with El Paso volunteers.

Left to right: Marissa Nunez, Isabel Ngo, Sawyer Hill, Amy Maltz, Mary Margaret, Amelie Rode
Deus providebit: Loretto’s Legacy in Texas

By Christina Manweller
We were met in El Paso by two sisters in a canvassed-top spring wagon. The driver looked like he had never known soap, water, or a comb. Finally we reached San Elizario after dark the same evening. When daylight dawned upon us, really my impressions were not very encouraging, as it seemed we had reached God’s forsaken part of the world. . . . the church had no pews, a mud floor, the highways were full of ruts and holes.

— Sr. Bernard Doyle SL, 1884
The sisters arrived in Texas in 1879, moving south to San Elizario from New Mexico, where they had been teaching since 1852. They helped build a stone and adobe convent which housed their new school, St. Joseph’s Academy. A placita (small plaza) stood in the center, and all around the building, they planted flower and vegetable gardens and an orchard.

They remained in San Elizario teaching children from the area and from within Mexico until 1892. The promised railroad had been diverted to El Paso, drawing the sisters to move the school to the larger city. Packing five wagons with their belongings, including two pianos, they made the 22-mile journey through sand that was a foot deep in places. Before long, more than 200 students were enrolled at St. Joseph’s in El Paso.

Over the years, the sisters continued to expand their educational efforts and influence through numerous parochial schools in El Paso, including Assumption (1960-1964), Guardian Angel (1912-1973), Holy Family (1922-1925), St. Ignatius (1905-1957), St. Mary’s at Immaculate Conception (1903-1966), St. Patrick (1923-1978), Sacred Heart (1892-1972), St. Joseph’s Cathedral School (1923-1976), and also Loretto’s own St. Joseph’s Academy (1934-1955).

In the early 1920s, Mother Praxedes Carty arrived in El Paso to oversee construction of a new all-girls school, where, in addition to traditional subjects, the sisters would provide the girls with leadership and life-skills training. She bought nearly 20 acres of desert land against the advice of A.J. Schuler SJ, the local bishop, who told her “If you succeed in building here, I’ll say you are the special child of our Divine Lord.” Certain that parents would never send their children to a school so far outside the city, naysayers called the project “Praxedes’ Folly.”

Loretto Academy as we know it today owes much to Mother Praxedes Carty. In 1923 she returned to the Southwest after serving as the Superior General for 26 years. Building Loretto Academy seems to have been her retirement project. Oral history has it that she told architect Henry Trost to change the direction of the building so the two arms would reach out towards our neighbors in Mexico. According to the same oral tradition, Mother Praxedes was advised to construct one section of the building at a time. She responded that if she did that there would never be enough money to complete the building. So, she built the shell, and the sisters spent the next 13 years raising money to complete the interior. For years, some window openings had no glass and the sisters would shovel the sand out of the rooms in the morning.

Mother Praxedes Carty, born in Ireland in 1854, entered the order in 1874. She was sent to New Mexico in 1875 for her health, spending the next twenty years at Our Lady of Light Academy in Santa Fe, and Loretto schools in Bernalillo and Las Cruces. She was then assigned to Loretto Heights in Denver. In 1896, she was called to lead the order, which she did until she “retired” to Texas in the 1920s to found Loretto Academy.

The year before the Academy would open, Mother Praxedes, 68, and two sisters moved into bungalows on the property. When the school opened, eight teachers and 143 students, including 23 boarders, occupied the yet-to-be-completed building. It would be another 14 years before the convent, the chapel and the school would be finished inside and out.

Mother Praxedes lived deeply the Loretto motto Deus providebit, God will provide, and she tirelessly solicited
funds for the school. In 1931, when traveling to St. Louis against her doctor’s wishes, she was injured in a fall; nevertheless, she managed to secure an $80,000 loan for the school. Back in El Paso after the injury, she directed work on the unfinished buildings from her bed until her death in 1933 of complications from the fall. Sister Francetta Barberis then took over, supervising the continuing construction, including an elementary school, Hilton-Young Hall, a cafeteria and a swimming pool.

The convent, which is one arm of the structure—the school being the other, with the chapel in the center—once housed around 100 sisters, who were teaching at the Academy and other El Paso parochial schools. Today, it is home to several local non-profit service organizations.

The boarding school, which was on the third floor of the high school, housed students from first through 12th grades. In 1975, it closed, freeing up space for the girls’ middle school.

Today, Loretto Academy educates girls and boys from preschool through fifth grade and operates girls-only middle and high schools. The Academy’s focus on faith, community and problem-solving skills helps young graduates move into the world with confidence. The academic focus on STEM and STEAM—math, science and computing, along with education in fine arts—is enhanced by an emphasis on serving others.

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With thanks to Buffy Boesen SL, Eleanor Craig SL and Eva Ross.

Quote on page 9 comes from Loretto: Annals of the Century, Anna Minogue, 1912.
You’re not smart enough, you’re not strong enough, you’re just a girl.” These are all phrases I constantly grew up hearing, and sadly believing. As a 10-year-old, you will believe anything someone tells you and I let these phrases affect me deeply. I let these phrases have so much power over me that I was so scared to join anything that was STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) related because like I have been told, “I was just a girl.” However, this changed the day my teacher encouraged me to join an FLL (First Lego League) team. The first day I walked into the first meeting, was the start of my amazing journey with FIRST. Just by walking through a door, I was walking into my new beginning. FIRST inspired me to continue to push the boundaries and to break the stereotypes placed upon me. I have been judged, shamed and even ridiculed for being a girl and on top of that, being a Latina woman trying to make it in the STEM field. However, through FIRST I have met so many people who inspire me and encourage me to continue down this road, and who support me in my decision in becoming an engineer.

If I had never joined FIRST, I would have never realized the power and strength I have. After participating in FIRST for seven years, I have had the opportunity to discover my passion. I now am able to help and share my passion with others by mentoring a young women’s FTC (FIRST Tech Challenge) team. Because I walked into my first robotic meeting, I now can proudly say that yes, I am a Latina woman, I am strong enough, I am smart enough, and I am going to be an engineer.

Three years ago, we opened our brand new FRC (FIRST Robotics Competition) team. The program has been very fulfilling for all the girls, coaches, mentors and sponsors. Since we started the team, we have had three graduating classes (15 FRC members among those seniors).

This year, at our first district competition (El Paso, March 2019), we were ranked second during regular matches and won the Excellence in Engineering Award. During our second district competition (Plano, March 2019), we won Finalist Award, Safety Award runner-up, and we were distinguished with the second most prestigious award: Engineering Inspiration. This season one of our students was a semi-finalist and another is finalist for Dean’s List Award. I am also a finalist for Woodie Flower’s Award for mentors.

We will be participating in the State Championship this spring, held in Austin, and hope to be honored to travel to the World Championship.

Our Awards:
Rookie All Star (2016); Spirit Award (2017, 2018); Dean’s List Semi-Finalist (2016); Dean’s List Finalist (2016). We have been invited twice to the World Championship, once at St. Louis, MO (2016) and once at Houston, TX (2018).
I came to Loretto Academy in 2000 for a one-year term as interim President, fully intending to return to Denver. However, that was not in God’s plan.

I knew that the population of Loretto Academy was over 85% Hispanic and Mexican and there was not much economic diversity. It became my goal to increase the economic diversity of the young people Loretto Academy served. Thanks to Don and Janis McFall of the Challenge Foundation in Denver, the Miles Foundation and many other donors, 35% of our student body now receives $710,000 of financial aid. 10% of the student body receives 90% to 100% full scholarships.

100% of our high school graduates go on to college. Last year our 88 seniors received over 28.65 million dollars in scholarships and grants.

An ongoing challenge continues to be upkeep of these historic buildings and large property. One of the first projects in the 21st century was xeriscaping—“landscaping or gardening that reduces or eliminates the need for supplemental water from irrigation” (Wikipedia).

Loretto’s generous donors have made renovation of the chapel and theater possible. It was always Sister Frances Ratermann’s dream to have dressing rooms in the theaters for her music and drama students. Her dream became a reality in 2016. Loretto’s long-term faculty and I would say it happened because of Frances’ prayers.

Additionally, in 1957, Hilton Young Hall (the gym), the Elementary Building and Guadalupe Hall (the cafeteria) were built. Work on these buildings has been ongoing through the years, and has included lighting, floors, asbestos removal and restroom updates—to name a few. Parents and students alike are excited about the remodeling of the gym restrooms at the current time.

There will always be work to be done on “Praxedes’ Folly”—the building. However, her vision of living Loretto values of faith, community, justice and respect is ongoing and our students are proof that almost 100 years later there is no folly in the education Praxedes began and is ongoing.
Immigrants were assigned two families to a room at the La Quinta motel where Alicia Ramirez SL volunteered upon her arrival in El Paso last January. Two fathers and their children, for instance, would share a room. “One man,” she says, “when he walked in with his son, broke down crying when he saw how nice the room was.”

Alicia speaks with emotion of the immigrants and the dedicated work of volunteers. She recalls a grandmother who was diagnosed with frozen shoulder after sleeping on the concrete floor in the detention center; she mentions a volunteer named Mike who drove from Albuquerque because he felt called to help, though he is dying of cancer.

Alicia spent five weeks in El Paso, working from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily—except for three overnight stints—primarily helping with intake and making phone calls because she speaks Spanish.

Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds keep the El Paso shelters running smoothly. The logistical work, carried out by college-age women who come to staff the shelters for a semester, is exceptionally well-organized and efficient, Alicia says. Volunteers come and go in shifts throughout the day and evening. Local community members make many contributions, including giving rides and delivering food; one volunteer brings 200 burritos each week prepared at his church. Others, including Mary Margaret Murphy SL, Loretto’s Vice President, drop in to do laundry. Buffy Boesen SL, President of Loretto Academy,

Loretto helps provide respite for weary travelers

By Mary E. “Buffy” Boesen SL

In early October 2018, the number of asylum seekers coming into El Paso began increasing dramatically. Annunciation House needed more volunteers to assist with serving these people. Sisters from many religious communities began coming and needed housing. After the convent closed and rooms were converted to offices, there were still 14 rooms that were saved for small retreats, for Sisters of Loretto coming to El Paso, and a few Academy housing needs. Rooms were made available to the sister volunteers from these many communities. Whenever a tenant moved out, that “office” was reconverted into a bedroom. There are now 17 rooms available. As of mid-March, Loretto had provided housing to just over 200 sisters, co-members and other lay volunteers. When there are not enough rooms, Liz Deines SL, Mary Margaret Murphy SL, Elisa Rodriguez SL and Buffy Boesen SL have provided housing and food for the hard-working sisters.

Sisters Mary Margaret Murphy, Helen Santamaria and Elisa Rodriguez assist with driving asylum seekers to the bus stations or airport. Alicia Ramirez SL worked at the hospitality center at Nazareth. Sister Claudia Calzetta volunteered for several weeks. Co-members Alicia Zapata, Irene Doody, Vivian Doremus and her sister, Judith, all came and worked in various capacities.

It is not unusual to find Mary Margaret Murphy at a laundromat with an asylum seeker or two washing, drying and folding sheets from one of the hospitality centers.

It is with a sad heart that the Nazareth hospitality center must close. The new owners of Nazareth are beginning work on renovating the original wing of the nursing home. Soon, that wing will be used for nursing home residents once again. Loretto and the El Paso community are grateful to Paramount Nursing Centers for the use of the west wing these many months.

At night, you see along the hall the lights from batteries being charged.

Christina Manweller, with Alicia Ramirez SL

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The room at Nazareth where immigrants received donated clothing. Photo: Claudia Calzetta SL
Volunteers at the Motherhouse fill bags with food and toiletries and make deliveries to the bus station in Louisville for arriving immigrants.

From left: Bernie Feeney SL, Aggie Hoormann RSCJ, Alicia Ramirez SL, Barbara Schulte SL, Marlene Spero SL.

makes Costco runs. Uber drivers have been known to offer services gratis, and retired couples from the Midwest arrive to volunteer for a couple of weeks at a time. “It takes a village,” Alicia says, “We all just get in there and do it.”

Many religious communities are represented, fostering closer relationships between communities. Alicia worked alongside Franciscans, Marists, Maryknoll and Notre Dame members, among others.

After her first week, she transferred to Nazareth Hall, Loretto’s nursing home which was sold last year. One wing was used as a makeshift shelter until the new owners closed it in April for renovations. (Reuben Garcia of Annunciation House has since opened alternate shelters.)

During Alicia’s tenure, 10-15 immigrants typically came at a time, but during her last week, up to 90 arrived daily. Once released from detention, immigrants are dropped off by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents and stay at a shelter for two or three days before traveling to a location in the U.S. where they await trial. Alicia and other Spanish-speaking volunteers help make contact with family members with whom the immigrants will stay.

Arriving at the shelter hungry and tired, visitors are offered food, clean clothes and necessities. After grueling travel ordeals, they are thankful when shown to the showers.

Most immigrants wear ankle bracelet monitors, and continue to do so until they reach their destination and attend a hearing; women find it necessary to cut their pants around the calf to remove clothes for showering. At night, Alicia notes, an eerie glow radiates down the hall from the ankle monitors’ battery chargers.

Preparing to leave, immigrants are supplied with bags of sustenance for the journey—burritos or sandwiches, snack bars, fruit, water—and sent off with hugs, tears and well-wishes.

“It was a privilege to be able to go and to help out,” Alicia says. “I loved being in El Paso; I wish I had been missioned there as a teacher or a nurse. The people are so generous and I loved being able to use my Spanish.”

She also volunteered in 2014 for five weeks, though she says there were not nearly as many immigrants arriving at that time.

Alicia and her 15-year-old dog, Rosie, stayed with Mary Margaret Murphy SL, Liz Deines SL and their cat, Tiger. Thankfully, dog and cat were companionable; Alicia and Rosie, an intelligent, bright-eyed poodle, don’t like to be separated for long.

Back in Kentucky, Alicia packs supplies for immigrants alongside other Motherhouse volunteers. On Sundays, she meets the buses in Louisville, handing out the bags and greeting travelers in their native tongue.

‘Early on, the immigrants were mostly from Guatemala and Honduras. Now they are also coming from Nicaragua and Brazil.

The volunteers are getting fatigued.’

- Elisa Rodriguez SL
Elise André CoL
April 26, 1937 — March 14, 2019
Elise was born in Clarksburg, Virginia. As a child, she was a diligent student and enjoyed piano and flute lessons. Her summers were spent at the Chautauqua Institution in New York where she participated in music lessons and cultural events. She attended Julliard School of Music, as well as Vassar College, where she majored in French and music. She went on to earn a doctorate in foreign language education at Ohio State University. Elise taught at several schools over the years, most recently at Berea College in Kentucky where she was a professor of French from 1976 to 1995. She converted to Catholicism in 1986, attending mass at the Motherhouse on Easter Day. She was to spend more and more time at the Motherhouse over the next years, becoming a Loretto co-member in 1997. She later wrote, “Participating in Loretto liturgies with my flute is one of my great pleasures. Like Loretto, living simply is something that I have espoused for some time; so, too, the love for and nurture of this wonder-filled Earth that we call home.” Elise died peacefully on March 14.

Bernice Hys SL
January 29, 1930 — January 10, 2019
Bernice Hys was born to Polish immigrants in St. Louis, Missouri and was baptized at St. Casimir Church. She and her three siblings attended Sacred Heart School where Sisters of Loretto taught. Bernice then enrolled at Northside Catholic High School (renamed St. Catherine Laboure High School in her senior year), and entered the Sisters of Loretto after graduation, receiving the habit in 1949. Bernice earned a BA in history from Loretto Heights College and spent 16 years teaching at seven schools before settling in El Paso where she taught at Loretto Academy for 37 years. She directed the school’s English as a Second Language program after earning a master’s degree in linguistics from the University of Texas. She was widely known for her expertise in ESL instruction. In 2004, she retired and moved to the St. Louis Loretto Center where she could be near family. In 2013, she moved to the Motherhouse Infirmary. She died quietly just before her 89th birthday. Bernice’s warm personality and infectious laugh are remembered by many.

For detailed remembrances and additional photos see www.lorettocommunity.org
### Memorials and Tributes of Honor

**November 2018 — January 2019**

**In Memory of:**

*Requested by:*

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Loretto:
All my teachers
at Loretto Heights College
Jana L. Meyer Clark

Loretto:
Loretto Heights College
Class of 1967, deceased members
Michele A. Saad

Loretto:
Sisters who taught
at Loretto Heights College
Margaret Ann Hedges Serpico

Loretto:
Sisters who taught
at St. Augustine School,
Lebanon, KY
Robert L. Goodin

Loretto:
Sisters who taught
at St. Peter Elementary,
Rockford, IL
Mr. & Mrs. William Peterson

Loretto:
Sisters who taught
in Shanghai, China
Anita M. Beausoleil
Mr. & Mrs. William Samaritano

Loretto:
Sisters who taught
in Sterling IL
Dr. Tom Sullivan

Alice Ann Love
Mr. & Mrs. Roman W. Gales

Francene Lum SL
Monica Chew

Karen Madden SL

Loretto Anne Madden SL

Theresa Madden SL
Rosemary A. Leberer

Marneil Mahony SL
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Byrne

Ann Manganaro SL
Richard H. Fox
Josephine Marie Marino
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent L. Marino
Dr. Quino Martinez
Mary G. Martinez
Norman L. May
Jean L. May
Edwin Mary McBride
B. Gene Fitzpatrick
Mary McManus
Mr. & Mrs. G.C. McEvoy
Patricia Kabler
Peggy McMahon
Dr. Nancy McMahon
Mary Cornelia McNellis SL
LaVerne G. Saxbury
C. Thomas Members
Amy R. Thomas
Howard & Ozella Meredith
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Vertrees
Miller Family
Mr. & Mrs John H Miller
Bill Minelli
Sally J. Minelli
Katherine Misbauer SL
Mr. & Mrs. Pat Mattingly
Jane (Fitizsimons) Molgaard
Allan F. Molgaard
Rita Morehouse
Rita M. Smith
Jane Mary Mouradian SL
Karyl Klein
David Muckerman
Patricia K. Muckerman
Ann Mueller SL
Jane Mueller SL
Mark Currington
Marie Clyde Murphy SL
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Shimel
Murray Family
Bill and Adele DeLine

Frances Mary Myers SL
Susan Martin
Newton Families
Helen C. Teter
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Nichols
Mr. & Mrs. Gayle E. Rogers
Mary An Noe
Robert F. Noe
John C. & Viki Noe Chikow

Evelyn & Burch O’Bryan
Mary Evelyn Knoop

Maureen O’Connell SL
Mr. & Mrs. William Samaritano
Mrs. Theresa M. Da Silva

Doloreta Marie O’Connor
Dr. Kaye Smith, DVM

Lois Elliott O’Connor,
Loretto Heights College,
Class of 1948
James J. O’Connor

Mary Naomi O’Meara SL
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Allan

Ruth Mary Olszewski SL
Edward W. Olszewski

Aurelia Ottersbach SL
Carol J. Mattingly

Rosalie Marie Phillips SL
Barbara J. McCarville
Raymond A. Stevison Jr.

Bill & Alice Pieper
Jim Pieper

Toni Pollack
Mary Sandoval Rome

Vicki Quatman SL
Mr. & Mrs. Robert R. Sluyter

John C. Radovich
Carol Radovich

Jean Louise Rafferty SL
Mr. & Mrs. Galen Graham
Mr. & Mrs. Antonio Jiminez

Frances Ratermann SL
R. Noel Longuemare Jr.
James Rauen
   Janet Rauen
Lucy Ruth Rawe SL
   Mary V. Petersen
   John F. Rawe
Johnnie & Pauline Reed
   Reed Electric Service
Marie Joann Rekart SL
   Tim & Kathy Farrell
   Rose Marie Hayden
   Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. McArthur
   Mr. & Mrs. John L. Rekart
   Mr. & Mrs. Robert M. Vignec
Theresa Clare Reynolds
   Gloria W. Tabacchi
Jane Marie Richardson SL
   Mary Vincent Breeck
Mary Agnes Richter SL
   Mr. & Mrs. Pat Mattingly
Joan Riegel
   Leo Riegel
Mary A. Rieger
   Frank A. Rieger
Albertina Riordan SL
   Marguerite M. Allan
Francis Louise Ritter SL
   George I. Gates Jr
   Mr. & Mrs. Charles Nix
   Mr. & Mrs. Francis Southall Sr.
Manuel J. Rodriguez
   Jean G. Rodriguez
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Rogers
   Mr. & Mrs. Gayle E. Rogers
Ida Romero
   Donna Du Charme
   Mr. & Mrs. Roger Seick
Dorothy Saulino
   Lorraine Saulino-Klein
Margaret Loyola Scanlan SL
   Dennis J. Gallagher
Mary Schenkenberg
   Dr. Phillip Schenkenberg
Leonora Mary Schierman SL
   Rene E. Lusser
Ann Mary Schilling SL
Jean Clare Schilling SL
   Kenneth Haner
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Schmidt
   Regina Schmidt
Frances Schwartzman Riley,
   Loretto Heights College,
   Class of 1957
   Lee Riley
Rogne & Martina Sedillo
   Mr. & Mrs. Orlando Sedillo
Quentin Seitz McCarthy
   Lucretia Seitz McCarthy
Jim Shannon,
   Christ the King School,
   Class of 1953
   Ann Mary Meiling
Ann Rita Sheahan SL
   Mr. & Mrs. Leroy M. Ellgass
Paul Sheffer
   Joan L. Sheffer
Lola & Charles Shirley
   Mr. & Mrs. Laurence Bradley
Marie Dolorosa Simones SL
   Karyl Klein
Magdalene Mary Skees SL
   Sheila A. O'Donnell-Schuster
Skiba Family
   Mr. & Mrs. Edward Skiba
Bob Smith
   Rita Smith
Donna Smith Dwyer
   David Dwyer
Spencer Spaulding
   Mary Sue Anderson
George F. Stephens
   Elizabeth Stephens
Mary Ellen Stiles
   Dr. & Mrs. Matthew Stiles
Bill Stimac
   Frances Fryberger
Georgette T. Straub
   Mr. & Mrs. John T. Straub
Mary Ann Surges
   Robert L. Johnson III
Susan Swain SL
   Tim & Kathy Farrell
   Mr. & Mrs. Dalan Jensen
   Mr. & Mrs. Patrick J. Welch
Mary Jean Tenhaeff SL
   Nancy B. Wilkins
Margaret Therriault Foster
   Guy DeMars
Regina Ann Thomas SL
   Joseph M. Hafner
Eugenia Thompson SL
   Miriam G. Chen
   Judy F. Wright
Alice Eugene Tighe SL
   Mr. & Mrs. William Mariner
   Stephanie & Youssef Marzouk
   James Tighe
Ann Virginia Tighe SL
Helen Tighe
Josephine Tighe
Sr. Margaret Tighe
   James Tighe
Mary Luke Tobin SL
   Mary Sue Anderson
Deceased members
of the Tong family
   Mr. & Mrs. Peter T. Kan
Emmanuel Tonne SL
   Janice Murphy
Tooien Family
   Patricia L. Kratschmer
Chris Utz
Garry Utz
   Margaret Utz
Frances Vaeth Spencer
   Sidney D. Spencer
In Honor of:
Requested by:

Pauline Albin SL
Gail P. Albin
Guadalupe Arciniega SL
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Mattingly III
Barbara Ann Barbato SL
Richard H. Fox
Mary Bickel’s Birthday
Sr. Lesley Block, OP
Elizabeth Blommer
Bernard & Charlotte
Blommer Foundation
Flint Blommer Family
Catherine Kane
Mary Peter Bruce SL
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Kolberg
Claudia Calzetta
Frances Calzetta
Kay Carlew SL
Ann H. Mudd
Rosemary Chinnici SL
Sheila Zipse
Denise Ann Clifford
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund T. Burke
Drs. Jacques & Nancy Leveille
Patsy & Woods Martin
Rosemary Oliver
Eleanor Craig SL
Fernanda Perrone
Martha Creek
Kay V. Cook
Donna Day
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Cuddihee
Antoinette Doyle SL
Cynthia L Giguere-Unrein
Terry Macaluso
Denise Elder
Sally J. Minelli
Cecilia Elliott,
Loretto Heights College
James J. O’Connor
George & Carol Evans
Anne Evans
Bernie Feeney SL
Amy McCarthy
Maureen Fiedler SL
Jennifer S. Morgan
Martha Fly*
Sally A. Firestone
Mary Nelle Gage SL
50th Jubilee
Maureen Flanigan*
Kathleen Hibbets

Jacqueline Wexler*
Elizabeth Burrows
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Grennan
Paul Wexler
Mary Sue Brock
Wheatley Family,
Lebanon KY
Mary W. Myers
Ann White SL
Mr. & Mrs. John David White
George Gillette White Sr.
Janyce White Angel
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Tokarski
Lisa Cella Wierman
Mr. & Mrs. Bernie Michalek
Patricia Johnston Wirthlen
Frances M. McMahon

Myra Wisniewski
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Ratkewicz
Florence Wolff SL
Mr. & Mrs. William Samaritano
Martha Gavin Wright
Mary Gavin
Dorothy Yates
Katherine M. Childress
Joseph & Trinidad Ybarra
Mr. & Mrs. John Ybarra

Lolita & Desiderio Vargas
Mr. & Mrs. John C. Ybarra
Jose D. Villa
Gloria Dominguez-Atencio
Claire M. Villa
Rosemarie Voelker,
Webster College,
Class of 1949
Dorothy C. Matern
Mrs. Bernice Voss
Marianne Burns
Ann Patrice Wagner SL
Dr. Ann Stoddard
Wake Family
Lawrence L. Amidei
Andrew & Austin Walker
Cathy & Dennis P. Walker

Spring 2019 • 21
JoAnn Gates*  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Ingle  
Harriet Peake Mas

Elfego Gomez  
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Sexton

Jeanine Gramick SL  
Rev. Paul K. Thomas  
Mary E. Beth & Richard Rock  
Merton Preston  
Jennifer S. Morgan  
Pauline M. Mattras  
Mr. & Mrs. James A. Jepson  
Joan O’Neill

Mary Katherine Hammett SL  
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Hammett  
Dr. Marilyn Montenegro

Katherine Ann Heinz SL  
Catherine M. Czysz

Mary Jo Highland  
Mary A. Highland

Gabriel Mary Hoare SL  
Grace B. Horvat

Patricia Hummel SL  
Mary Lee Corbett  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Hummel

Mary Kane  
Catherine E. Kane

Sharon Kassing SL  
Nina K. Bryans

Dave Kearns  
Jo Marie Guastello

Dolores Kelley  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis R. Floyd

Eileen Kersgieter  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Hermann

Anna Koop SL  
Arthur Carbonell Jr.

Kay Lane SL  
Alfred Frey  
Joseph Tally  
James Tighe

Buck Lavender  
Mr. & Mrs. Terance Purcell

Loretto:  
All my teachers  
Mary E. Bickel

Loretto:  
All Sisters of Loretto  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael D. Martin

Loretto:  
My Sisters of Loretto teachers  
Sharon L. O’Brien

Loretto:  
Sisters of Loretto  
Mr. & Mrs. James P. Scofield

Patricia Jean Manion SL  
Jana L. Meyer Clark  
Theora Lehner Evans  
Mary Pat Lease  
Rosemary Mason  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael S. Loden  
Rae Marie Taylor

Mary McAliffe SL  
Sheila Zipse

Maureen McCormack SL  
Kathleen Farrell Riordan

Pat McCormick SL  
Thomas Rauch

Chris McCullum-Gomez  
50th birthday  
Emma & George Steen

Stormy Hausmann  
McDonald  
Dr. & Mrs. John G. Lewis

Mary Ellen McElroy SL  
60th Jubilee  
Marilyn F Koncen  
Helen W. Walsh*

James Meyer  
Mary A. Highland

Janis Meyer  
Mr. & Mrs. Orlando Sedillo

Newton Families  
Helen C. Teter

Barbara Nicholas SL  
Helen Ryan Kindler  
Nursing Sisters of the Sick  
Poor  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Seelbach

Lydia Peña SL  
Steven Atchley  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Box  
Cornelia R. Dietz  
Robert & CeCe Holt  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Hopkins

Judy Popp SL  
60th Jubilee  
Cornelia R. Dietz  
Marilyn F. Koncen  
Helen W. Walsh*

Elaine Marie Prevallet  
Kerry Holder  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Ingle  
Rae Marie Taylor

Alicia Ramirez SL  
Mr. & Mrs. William K. Carr

Delbert Ramsey Family  
Catherine E. Kane

Laura Rasor  
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Schoeni

Helen Santamaria SL  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Sheridan

Anthony Mary Sartorius SL  
Sheila Beims  
Nursing Sisters of the Sick  
Poor  
Virginia St-Cyr

David Schoeni  
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Schoeni

Barbara Schulte SL  
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas F. Davis  
Carol Rossi  
Mr. & Mrs. George Trembath
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Relations to Loretto Motherhouse</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agnes Ann Schum SL</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. David George</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacqueline Scolari</td>
<td>Katherine M. Childress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosina Sedillo</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Orlando Sedillo</td>
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<td>Sylvia Sedillo SL</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Orlando Sedillo</td>
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<td>Marlene Spero SL</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Nicholas F. Davis</td>
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<td>Carol Rossi</td>
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<td>Mary Swain SL</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Patrick J. Welch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bette Taylor</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Al Lawing</td>
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<td>Kathleen Tighe SL</td>
<td>Alfred Frey</td>
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<td>Joseph Tally</td>
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<td>Mr. James G. Tighe</td>
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<td>Mary Louise (Billie) Vandover SL</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John T. Vandover</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adam Vasquez</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joseph Vasquez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen Vonderhaar SL</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. William Mariner</td>
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<td>Webster University</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. John H. Glick Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret N. White</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Thomas Tokarski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Catherine Widger SL</td>
<td>Theresa J. Taylor</td>
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Redbud tree, Loretto Motherhouse, April 2019