Felicitations! Loretto honors 80-year, 75-year, 50-year and 25-year jubilarians. Vowed and non-vowed members have committed their lives to service. Celebrate! Pages 8-13

Loretto welcomes students who learn about the United Nations and Loretto’s important role as an NGO. Page 14

Pakistan’s students lead lives very different from their American counterparts. Nasreen Daniel SL travels to Loretto schools in the U.S. sharing a view of life in Pakistan seldom seen by Americans. Page 16

Anndavid Naeger SL chronicles goings-on at the Motherhouse in prose that is well-loved by her readers. Treat yourself to a taste. Pages 18-20

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Front cover:
Top: Loretto volunteers visit the cemetery while on retreat at the Motherhouse.
Bottom, from left: Liz Perez SL presents Mary Genevieve Cavanaugh SL with her jubilee cake; students talk with Nasreen Daniel SL after her presentation to St. Mary’s Academy High School students in Denver; pond in Loretto Motherhouse courtyard
(photos by Mallory Daily, Peg Jacobs CoL Regina Drey SL, Leslee Moore CoL)

Back cover:
Fall color at the Motherhouse grotto, by Leslee Moore CoL
After years of corresponding with you via Loretto Magazine, annual/special appeal letters, annual reports, holiday greetings, thank you letters, and many telephone visits, you’d think writing this letter would be a piece of cake. But composing this farewell message has been most challenging. Like Charlie Brown, “Good-byes make my eyes leak and my heart hurt.”

What a gift each of you has been to Loretto during my 23 years as Development Director! Your generosity and faithful response to Loretto’s communal and ministerial needs is phenomenal. In response to our requests and appeals through the years, you have contributed over $27 million. You have generously supported and partnered with us in addressing community needs and assisted many beyond Loretto through your generous support of our ministries and outreach efforts. We give thanks to God for each of you.

I am grateful for staff members who have given generously to this ministry: Julie Clements, Mary Kay Brannan SL, Maggie Nelan, Donna Mattingly SL, Chris Molina, Kelly Darby, Lydia Peña SL, Brenda Blankenship and the late Carolyn Dunbar.

The Development Office staff gratefully acknowledge the contribution of the Loretto Denver residents and friends who provided helping hands with labeling, stuffing and stamping numerous mailings! It truly “takes a village” to achieve the results we have experienced.

I extend my gratitude to the committee members, volunteers and participants who contributed to our fundraising activities, especially our 21 Golf Tournaments and the memorable Loretto 200th Jubilee celebrations and gala event!

Now I begin a new chapter in my Loretto Life, as Community Life Coordinator for the Motherhouse Community. I am “in training” for my new ministry, relying on others to point me in the right direction. I assure you I have many capable teachers and directors to keep me “on track.”

To each of you, I promise a prayerful remembrance for all you have done to make my 23 years as Development Director as memorable and joy-filled as my previous 33 years as a Catholic school teacher and principal.

Love you all and thanks for the memories.

Sister Denise Ann Clifford SL

P.S. Let me know if you are traveling our way. I’ll roll out the welcome mat to our Old Kentucky Home!

Editor’s note: Mary Ann McGivern SL has been asked to take on the role of Development Director, and has accepted.
Volunteer House opens in Denver

For the second year in a row, Loretto has opened a new Volunteer House. One year after the founding of El Paso’s house, Denver’s new home opened in August. Three volunteers will spend a year in service:

- Reilly Love Rebhahn works at Escuela de Guadalupe, a Spanish-English school co-founded by Susan Swain SL.
- Emerson Watson works with the Empowerment Program which assists women who have experienced domestic violence.
- Rebecca Krasky works with Angelica Village, an intentional community for immigrants and refugees primarily focused on women and children. Jean East CoL was instrumental in helping to found the organization.

Erica Stewart, the new Assistant Volunteer Coordinator for the Denver Community, will be actively supporting the volunteers throughout the year. She previously worked for Stonehill College in the Campus Ministry office coordinating local community services.

“My hopes for the volunteers are that they enter the year with an open mind and heart for the beautiful transformation that is to come both through their service at their organizations as well as through their intentional community. My own year of service with Dominican Volunteers USA in San Francisco was one of the most fruitful experiences of my life, and I hope that theirs too, has a lasting impact on them both personally and professionally.”

Erica Stewart, Assistant Volunteer Coordinator for the Denver Community
On May 4, Lydia Peña SL was awarded an honorary doctorate from Regis University.

“In recognition of all of [her] work for so many people throughout decades of service, the Board of Trustees of Regis University, by virtue of the authority vested in it, does hereby confer on Sister Lydia Peña the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, with all the rights, privileges and honors there unto appertaining.”

- Fr. John P. Fitzgibbons, SJ, President, Regis University

Lydia also was invited to deliver speeches to those graduating with master’s degrees and doctorates, ending with wisdom from Cardinal John Henry Newman:

“We have our mission. We have a part in a great work. We are a link in a chain, a bond of connection among persons. God has not created us for naught. We shall do good.”

St. Mary’s Gala a boon to school and students

Saint Mary’s Academy’s gala held in the spring was an unqualified success, raising $383,163 for programs, including tuition assistance, global learning and computer science.

Several Loretto Community members attended, including Theresa Kinealy CoL, Joan Spero SL and Mary Ellen McElroy SL.

Theresa Kinealy says, “I look forward to the gala each year. It’s wonderful to see the support that the parents and alumnae give to St. Mary’s, and they have such appreciation for what the school has done for the students.”
This is what God asks of you, only this: to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8
As of the end of 2019, the vowed Sisters of Loretto currently living have collectively served in various ministries to the People of God for over 7,600 years. Sisters take first vows in Loretto after a preparation period where they formalize their desire to enter more deeply into consecrated religious life. This formal entry is called a sister’s reception date. That date until the current calendar year represents her years of commitment in religious life and service.

Over the course of Loretto’s 207-year history, service has taken many forms and allows for each individual’s unique gifts and talents. A significant portion of those 7,600 years of service were spent in classroom teaching in various elementary, secondary, college and university settings throughout the United States and abroad. Other works have included ministry to the sick, elderly and disabled, social services, spiritual direction, parish ministry, and a host of other works.

... we strive to bring the healing Spirit of God into our world and we commit ourselves to improving the conditions of those who suffer from injustice, oppression, and deprivation of dignity ...

I Am the Way, Loretto’s constitution, article 33
Loretto celebrated three important anniversaries at the Motherhouse this year: two 75-year jubilees and one 80th.

Clockwise from left: Mary Katherine Hammett SL celebrates her 75-year jubilee with family; Kathleen Tighe SL celebrates her 75-year jubilee with family; Liz Perez SL presents a cake to Mary Genevieve Cavanaugh SL in celebration of her 80-year jubilee.
A recent visit to Sister Genevieve Cavanaugh’s bedroom confirmed that this 98-year-old is still the mistress of quick quips. Asked how she enjoyed her anniversary, she grinned, “Which one?” She feigned surprise at the reminder that she celebrated 80 years in April.

We reviewed together the dozen photos in Genevieve’s personnel file. She looked closely at each photograph, then looked out the window and sighed, smiling as if to herself. She said several times, “Oh my ... oh my! ... such sweet memories!” Of the photos, my favorite was Genevieve as a curly-haired cowgirl in a hat, circa 1990. Her favorite was an earnest, formal picture of herself in the “M” veil in 1948, 70 years ago!

Genevieve has been a “Loretto girl” even longer than that. As a six-year-old, she entered first grade at Loretto Academy on 39th and Roanoke in Kansas City. That was 1926 and she continued through 12th grade at the Academy. An only child, she nevertheless left her parents for Loretto Motherhouse immediately after graduating from high school. She had been known as Jeanne Frances Cavanaugh. Received into the Loretto community on April 25, 1939 she has lived 80 years as Sister Mary Genevieve.

“It doesn’t seem that long,” she remarks. Turning her face to the blue sky beyond her window, Genevieve seems to muse over the length of time for a moment. On her rolling tray is a copy of Teillard de Chardin’s *The Phenomenon of Man*, with a bookmark about 100 pages in. On her desk several books are stacked, the top one a volume on mortality. Genevieve has said of herself, “My inherent nature desires quiet, solitude and the pursuit of the intellectual.” When I first entered her room, she had been watching TV coverage of the Democratic presidential candidates. “It is just so stimulating,” she said. “Yes, stimulating is the right word. I enjoy the stimulation.”

(Executor’s note: Mary Genevieve passed away at the Motherhouse Infirmary on August 9, three months after her 80-year anniversary.)
Mary Katherine Hammett SL

By Eleanor Craig SL and Johnny Hammett

Sister Mary Katherine Hammett’s niece, Jane Hammett from Missoula, Mont., visited Loretto Motherhouse with several other nieces, nephews and spouses; they came for the days of celebration of Mary Katherine’s 75th Jubilee. Jane is the daughter of Mary Katherine’s younger brother, John “Johnny” Hammett, who wasn’t able to travel from Kalispell, Mont. Jane later sent some family remembrances from Johnny and his wife, Lois, who were eager to congratulate “MK” on her jubilee and to let her know how proud they are of her.

The following was written by her brother Johnny:

MK grew up in Colorado Springs and Fort Collins. Her grandparents on both sides were Irish immigrants. She was the oldest of the six children of Katherine and Walter, with four younger brothers and a sister. All have passed on except for MK and her younger brother, Johnny, third born in the family.

Family life with six children, two parents and one bathroom was pretty much routine. Music has always been a huge part of MK’s life. The whole family was very musical. Dad played the violin and four of her siblings all played a musical instrument. Her baby brother James was an avid tap dancer. MK played the organ and piano. She was very active in the parish, playing the organ while her brothers served mass at Saint Joseph’s Church.

MK has told us that she knew in second grade that she wanted to become a nun because she was so inspired by her teacher who was a nun at St. Joseph’s School and Church in Fort Collins. At 17 years of age MK made the first step in fulfilling her dream to become a Sister of Loretto. The family all piled into the car and drove to Denver and put her on the train bound for Nerinx, Ky., where she began her studies and commitment to the Lord and the Sisters of Loretto. She went on to teach, especially music and religious education, in Colorado, Missouri, Texas and California.

MK grew to be a fabulous driver and traveler. She made many road trips solo to visit family and friends in Missouri, Colorado, Wyoming and Montana while living in Texas and California. Fiercely independent and resilient, she enjoyed cruising solo on the freeways through Death Valley and navigating big-city traffic.

Following her retirement from her parish duties in California, MK worked for four years for a pipe company in administration. The other employees at the plant didn’t know that she was a nun and she didn’t know what their religious backgrounds were but she said they sure used Jesus’ name a lot.

During one of her last summer visits to northwest Montana we were out having lunch when our waiter appeared with an obscene word pasted across the front of his T-shirt. MK’s brother Johnny and wife Lois were appalled! MK in her smooth, calming, and non-judgmental voice simply stated, “This could be this man’s only shirt.”

We all have utmost respect for MK, her wisdom, strength, determination and her peaceful loving soul. We are eternally grateful for all she has taught us and shared with us. We all love her for her duty to the Lord and the Sisters of Loretto.
Celebrating the anniversary of one’s being received into the Loretto Community is an event that stirs the emotions and the memories of the past. Kathleen Tighe had this experience on April 25 this year, marking her 75th anniversary as a Sister of Loretto. When asked about her thoughts and feelings on this special day, she began immediately and with great animation. What follows are her words shared with interviewers Delores Kincaide and me.

What were your emotions, thoughts, and memories as you anticipated your 75th anniversary on April 25, 2019?

Getting ready, I was very excited. I sent my six nephews an invitation in February, telling them I would like them to come to the celebration because I am the last child of the Alice and Eugene Tighe family. And they took me seriously and did come. That was very special to me.

One of my great nephews brought his two children, including a girl who is six who has my sister Alice Eugene’s talent in music. [On the afternoon of April 25] this little girl, Morgan, played at the piano and sang “Amazing Grace” — playing with both hands and using the pedals. Her brother, Kevin, played the violin — he is four-and-a-half.

So family was such a good part of my jubilee. Then my Loretto Community Group — the Northern California group — came and also people from our Berkeley neighborhood community and church. And the women here at the Motherhouse were wonderful.

Multiple groups like those who celebrated with me have made up the whole of my life, for all of my life. God has taught me how to relate well to diverse groups. I told everyone gathered for the celebration that I don’t remember one day in all my 75 years when I thought I’d made a mistake in joining Loretto.

There were tough times: I was made principal of Nerinx Hall. I was so green I was in shock for a year: I had never even written a check in my life! After two years, I was sent to Kansas City and made principal. And Sister Edwardine there told me that we were going to build a new school and I was going to raise money and work with the architects and design the building!

I had graduated from high school when I was 16. We had moved to California and I was skipped up a year because my sister, Sister Ann Virginia, was a teacher in the school and they didn’t want her to teach me. So I was very young when I finished high school. All the while as we’d go visit my sisters who were Sisters, I’d be asked “Are you going to be a nun too?,“ and I always said “No.” But then I decided during senior retreat that I would go and my parents urged me to go, saying “We have trained you girls to make good decisions in your lives; this decision is yours and it is up to you to make the right decision now.” So I wrote Mother Edwarda and said, “Guess what! Number five of the Tighes wants to join!” There is a blue spruce on the Motherhouse grounds, out by the Nerinckx log cabin in honor of the five Tighes.

I’m so grateful for Loretto. I’ve grown so much with Loretto. I’ve lived with marvelous women, the ones who led and the ones who taught and the ones who did the laundry. They have all been wonderful.
Anna Koop’s process of becoming a Sister of Loretto evolved slowly as she spent time with sisters and got to know the community in the 1960s. She remembers Maureen McCormack SL saying, “You seem to know a lot of nuns, have you thought of joining?” “I was still resisting,” Anna says. Resisting, but curious, she attended a Loretto gathering and was impressed by the meetings and the community. “I was hooked,” she recalls.

She was good friends with Sue Kenney, who entered the order in March 1969. Anna entered several months later, in October, when she was 31 years old. Upon return to Denver, following her canonical year in Kentucky, she established her life-long habit of working four days a week, giving two days to community, and one day to prayer and reflection.

For many years, Anna worked at Catholic Charities, where she advocated for affordable housing. She says, “I decided if I was concerned about housing I should provide some.” She spent a sabbatical year in Santa Fe learning about the Catholic Worker movement, returning to Denver determined to help start a Worker House.

Denver’s Catholic Worker House launched in July 1978. “I lived in that house for 38 years,” Anna says. “Then it burned.” A fire of unknown origin destroyed the house in 2016. Support from volunteers and donors led to the purchase of a new home, which was renovated and opened this year. “We are very grateful for all of the people who have made this house possible,” Anna says.

Along with Jennifer Haines, who also has been closely involved with the Denver Catholic Worker House from the beginning, Anna sees herself retiring from responsibility for the house before long, passing on the work to a fresh crew of volunteers.

“She’s a bright, bright woman doing very good things. And I feel very blessed to have found Loretto and that they accepted me.”

Loretto entered my life in Pueblo, Colo., where three Sisters of Loretto began a mission and I was an Extension Volunteer. This was within the diocese of co-member Bishop Charles Buswell and at the time of the beginning of Vatican II. My life was changed by the influence of these people and the exciting times within the Church.

The connections with, and influence of, Loretto continued upon my move to Denver. While working at Catholic Charities, my friend Anna Koop and I joined Loretto. As a vowed member for 25 years and a co-member for 25, I have spent the years in social work, eventually with Co-member Jean East beginning Project WISE, a non-profit emphasizing the empowerment of women with low incomes, focusing on individual and social change. In recent years, I have worked with students at the Denver University Graduate School of Social Work.

I am rich with memories of my life in Loretto, working for justice in a community of faith, sharing times both happy and sad. Currently, I am enjoying the challenge of being on the Community Forum, listening, planning and trusting in the Spirit as, like others, Loretto rides the tide of change. Thank you, Loretto, for the lifetime of treasured years together.
Donna Doyle CoL
My life began in Mobile, Ala., January 10, 1930. In 1946, I went to the Loretto Novitiate in Kentucky. I took vows on December 8, 1948. At that point I began teaching, which continued for 49 years. In 1965, I felt that I had to leave the order and all the wonderful people with whom I had been for those 19 years. I have felt more and more love, appreciation, and admiration for the Sisters of Loretto as the years go by. Thank you Loretto for all you have helped me to learn and to become.

Ruth Fitzpatrick CoL
Ruth’s son John shares, “Through her words and deeds, she taught her children to speak out against injustice and stand up for what we believe to be morally right. … She strongly believed in giving voice to the poor and oppressed.” Ruth lived in and visited many countries, including in Latin America, and was a committed supporter of Central American refugees. For many years, she led the Women’s Ordination Conference. Ruth loved creating art, especially through sculpture and painting. She is well cared for at a lovely facility in Fairfax, Va. Her family appreciates Loretto’s prayers and visits.

Lillian Moskeland CoL
I was born in Mexico City to Jim Bruce and Dolores Novoa Roumagnac. They loved and modeled social justice for me and my siblings as they encouraged us to think for ourselves. Today, I serve in social justice for my church community. I thank Loretto for the model to serve. I graduated from Holy Family High School in 1959; spent two years at Loretto Heights; went to France for six months; returned to Seattle U for my BA in Romance Languages; started my master’s at University of Washington; and, finally, my MLA in Shreveport, La. in 2002. John and I had three children: premature twins died shortly after birth. My daughter, Andrea and her husband Vince Cobb have given us four loving, creative grandchildren. I taught for 30 years: grade school, kindergarten, high school and finally university. Students were my joy of teaching and many are now friends.

Karla Onick CoL
I was drawn to Loretto because of their love and outlook on the world. To me, they exemplified what life as a Christian truly meant. In 1983, I was hired to teach first grade at Loretto Academy. I have difficulty finding the words to describe being a part of that school. As I got to know more of the sisters, I felt more love, tolerance, and acceptance than I had ever felt. I feel that all that I have learned as a co-member has enabled me to spread the Loretto values throughout my career with teachers, staff, students, and parents by setting an example of tolerance, justice, and peace. I retired two years ago, and I am now serving on the Loretto Academy Board of Trustees. Once again, I am honored to be a part of this exceptional organization, and I thank God for leading me to Sr. Pat, Sr. Katherine, and Sam in 1978, and for giving me the opportunity to become a co-member 25 years ago.

Paulette Peterson CoL
Paulette Peterson recently joined Loretto’s leadership team as a member of the Forum and as a board member of the new 501c organization, Loretto Link. After graduating from Mt. Assisi Academy in Lemont, Ill., she attended Webster College in St. Louis. There she worked and lived with Sisters of Loretto at Mullanphy Street House, working with lower-income families. She lived in community in many places, filling many roles for Loretto, including in Kansas City, Northern California and Denver. In 1974, Paulette worked in an orphanage in war-torn Vietnam. This experience became pivotal to her life’s work, since after she earned her PhD in psychology at The New School for Social Research in NYC, she started as the leading therapist and team leader for the Veteran’s Administration Readjustment Center in Queens, N.Y. She spent 30 years helping returning soldiers deal with the emotional trauma of war. Paulette is married to Mark Nachmias and lives in Manhattan.
Together these (mostly) young leaders have joined the global discussion around issues ranging from women’s economic empowerment to maternal health care to ending human trafficking of women and girls and sexist hate speech. Students enjoyed attending official meetings and side events (located inside the UN headquarters complex) and parallel events (located at various sites near the UN such as at the Church Center across from the UN Secretariat building). In 2019, students were also able to meet and reflect with Loretto Community member Alice Kitchen from Kansas City, Mo., and learn about CEDAW (the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women — see www.citiesforcedaw.org).

The experience can be quite overwhelming, and involves everything from picking up grounds passes to locating sessions to navigating around New York. As United Nations CSW delegates representing the Loretto Community, students stepped up to the challenge, becoming even more convinced that there is much to do in the world, and that we each have a responsibility to engage. As someone relatively new to the UN Representative position, and because of my background in higher education, I noted that we could do even better at helping our youth learn to think in a much broader, more global way.

In 2019 we experimented with a pilot set of lesson plans focused on the founding and history of the United Nations, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and the CSW itself. We used an online learning platform called Core Atlas, which was a good place to start, and will research several options to find the best possible fit for our teachers and schools.

After collecting feedback, we plan to create an improved set of materials to share with the next group of participants this fall as they prepare for their 2020 CSW visit. Our small Curriculum Committee, part of the Loretto at the UN Advisory Committee, will also be inviting several students and chaperones who already have had the immersion experience to work with us as advisers as we proceed.

It takes an incredible amount of work to prepare and to provide this significant immersion experience to more than 30 students, Loretto Volunteers, and teachers each year, but it’s an excellent opportunity for young leaders learning to make positive change.

March 2019 marked the 11th year that the Loretto Community has welcomed a delegation of high school students to the United Nations’ Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York City. The CSW serves as the principal global policy-making body dedicated exclusively to gender equality and advancement of women and girls.

Students from Nerinx Hall High School, St. Mary’s Academy and Loretto Academy attend regularly, increasing their critical thinking and civil discourse skills across lines of not only gender but also religion, race, age, class and political affiliation. In addition to students from our Loretto high schools in St. Louis, Denver and El Paso, at various times we’ve welcomed students from Kansas City Academy, Bishop Diego Garcia High School in Santa Barbara, Calif., and Regis Jesuit High School in Denver. These students and their teachers have been joined by Loretto Volunteers and Sisters and Associates of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Dubuque, Iowa, whom we also represent at the United Nations.

“**I firmly believe the work we do at the United Nations is a clear expression of Loretto’s impact in the world ...**”

Kathy Baldwin-Heitman CoL

By Beth Blissman CoL
“Loretto is making an important, positive difference in the world through our participation at the United Nations,” noted Loretto Community member Kathy Baldwin-Heitman CoL, former Head of School at Kansas City Academy. “I firmly believe the work we do at the United Nations is a clear expression of Loretto’s impact in the world, and it serves as an important means for providing significant, global and experiential learning for the Loretto Community and beyond.”

If you would like to learn more about Loretto at the UN, please contact our Loretto Community NGO Representative at the United Nations, Beth Blissman, Ph.D., at bblissman@lorettocommunity.org

Beth Blissman, Ph.D., currently serves as the Loretto Community’s NGO Representative to the United Nations. She has over 25 years of experience in higher education, with an emphasis in community engagement. Her passions include addressing both social and environmental justice challenges simultaneously through experiential education opportunities, multilateral diplomacy, biomimicry and permaculture design. Beth’s academic background is interdisciplinary, and includes a doctorate in Religion & Social Change, a Master of Arts in Theology & Pastoral Ministry, and a bachelor’s degree in architectural engineering (BAE).

“I thought I knew what was going on — what the facts were — what the numbers were — but I came all the way across the country to find out how much I didn’t know.

Like the situation with children in detention centers and how they’re treated — having their shoes taken away, not being able to take showers — it’s against human rights. Yet there are so many different organizations, from all over the world, who are doing so many things to help.

My advice to those who come in the future?

Wear comfortable shoes! Be open — attend all the sessions you can. Take time to reflect, to think deeply about how the world is changing, and how what affects you in a small way can affect others in larger ways.”

Alejandra Limas, Loretto Academy class of 2019
Nasreen Daniel, Samina Iqbal and Maria Daniel, three Loretto sisters living in Lahore, Pakistan, were asked by the local bishop to take over operations at St. Anthony’s School, which teaches children from preschool through eighth grade. The students, Christian and Muslim, come from the neighborhoods surrounding the area where our sisters live, called Green Town. Most of the families struggle to get by.

Loretto Schools in the United States have employed various fundraising projects that have helped support the school in Pakistan through financial contributions. Recently, Nasreen was in the United States for meetings and was able to extend her stay. She said, “It had always been my desire to visit our Loretto schools in the United States and thank each person personally for their sensitivity to the needs of those who are not as fortunate. It was a God-given opportunity for me to stay longer in the United States and travel to the schools.”

Leslee Moore, a new Loretto co-member, drove Nasreen from the Loretto Motherhouse to Nerinx Hall, a high school in St. Louis. To Nasreen’s delight she had the opportunity to speak to all of the high school students. She was thrilled with the positive and compassionate response.

Shortly after her presentation, in fact the same day, Lydia Peña SL received an email from Sarah Ruttencutter, a Nerinx student, saying she was so inspired by Nasreen’s talk that she wanted to travel to Pakistan to volunteer with the Loretto mission. Although it was not possible for Sarah to go to Pakistan, after discussions exploring what she would like to do to meet some of the needs of our school in Lahore, Nasreen found a way for her to become involved with the mission: She would teach English to the Pakistani teachers. Sarah developed interesting methods for improving their competencies, and with the help of Zoom video conferencing, Sarah and the teachers met “face-to-face” every Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. (10:00 p.m. for Sarah in St. Louis).

In Pakistan, the government requires that most classes be taught in English. The teachers are grateful for Sarah’s tutoring, which has improved their English language skills and, as they say, drastically improved their teaching.

What a wonderful contribution Sarah, a high school senior, has made to the teachers, and therefore to the students, in Pakistan. Sarah’s life, too, has been enriched by this opportunity to interact with those halfway across the globe.

Nasreen’s next stop was at St. Mary’s Academy in Denver. Regina Drey SL coordinated Nasreen’s time there, and her visit was a productive one. The students learned about life in Pakistan from Nasreen and her sisters, and they were inspired by Sarah’s dedication to helping the Pakistani teachers improve their English skills.
student body is made up of preschool through high school students so Nasreen spoke to small groups. Nasreen said, “I was touched by the questions from the little ones when they heard that some children have to walk for an hour or more to come to the school. The solution was found by a little gentleman in the lower school at St. Mary’s. He wanted to provide bicycles for all. The desire to help those in need was so prevalent.” Nasreen was moved by the students’ close attention and the compassion demonstrated by students at all grade levels.

St. Mary’s first graders later sponsored a fundraiser in which they performed chores for family and neighbors, raising $1,700. Little hands can do big work. In addition, the middle school sent $500 from their fundraising to Pakistan for the Loretto Empowering Women in Pakistan project.

We give You glory thanks and praise.
O bless our works and guide our ways.

From Denver, Nasreen travelled to Loretto Academy in El Paso, Texas. From preschoolers to high school seniors, Nasreen was greeted with enthusiasm and curiosity. She remarked, “I saw the same excitement among the listeners, and sensitivity accompanied by questions like: ‘What can we do for you in Pakistan to help make a difference in the lives of the people associated with Loretto there?’ It was so obvious that generosity of heart is inculcated in the students and the staff.”

Before leaving Loretto Academy, President Mary E. “Buffy” Boesen SL gave Nasreen a $5,000 check. This money will go far toward securing supplies and paying teacher salaries in Pakistan.

We give You glory thanks and praise.
O bless our works and guide our ways.

At the request of Loretto Co-member Mary Ann Lovett, Nasreen then traveled to San Antonio to visit Rolling Hills Catholic School and Antonian Middle School where Mary Ann is employed. Mary Ann suggested the notion of a sister school. “All of the students from both schools welcomed me and inquired about various ways to be in contact and learn from each other,” Nasreen said. Since the time of Nasreen’s visit, Mary Ann has sent letters written by the middle school students, accompanied by their school photos, to the upper-grade students at St. Anthony’s in Pakistan. Mary Ann reported, “Our goal is to create siblings halfway around the world. We hope that they will invest in each other’s well-being as well as become ‘family.’”

The response from staff and students at the four Loretto schools was amazing. It is encouraging to know that the Loretto values of justice and peace, which do much to foster equality, are so strong in those touched by Loretto.

Nasreen extends her thanks to all of her friends who made these visits possible.

We give You glory thanks and praise.
O bless our works and guide our ways.
Some months after my arrival at the Motherhouse in 2002, Sister Anthony Mary Sartorius, who was the Motherhouse Service Coordinator, asked me to write about the many events which take place here, much like the annals which each convent used to keep. I decided to record the present happenings and end the monthly piece with events from the 1800s. I have not missed an issue since that time in spite of a broken arm, pain and suffering, praise and criticism, too little material, too much, etc. As Sister Cecily Jones often reminded me, “You are writing our history one month at a time.” Of course, the death of a Sister always receives priority each month, but no occurrence is too small or too large to include. I suppose I will continue writing until I am told to stop! To give a taste of the flavor of the publication, I have selected samples.

Anndavid Naeger SL

November 2003

The sunlight was purring through the clear windows of the church on a lovely, crisp autumn morning that we had set aside to celebrate the 25th-year anniversary of Betty Kelty’s co-membership. Betty [former postmaster at the Motherhouse post office] has been familiar with the Motherhouse all of her life. She states, “My grandmother was a boarder at the Loretto Motherhouse Academy many years ago. I live about a half mile from here and often attend Mass here. Even before I was married, I can remember as a child many of my uncles, aunts, my parents and grandparents would take part in the Corpus Christi celebrations here.” She thinks that being a co-member has enriched her prayer life and that sharing our gifts with one another helps all of us make better choices in our lives. At the end of our celebration, in her usual after-Mass dance, Sister Mary Luke Tobin paused in front of Betty long enough to take her hand and kiss it. It was a lovely gesture which sums up our gratitude and respect for our postmaster. Betty is often heard to say, “Get your stamps from us; no order is too small or too large. Nerinx Post Office is the best, so help support it!”

April 2003

The fireflies looked like miniature space ships with malfunctioning electrical systems as they drifted around the yard. During the evening, some of them were attracted to and then attached to the electric wiring system which encircled the dog’s enclosure at Nerinckx Farm House. Instead of getting a little mid-flight rest, the little critters were immediately electrocuted but their abdomens still glowed with luminescence with each pulsating of the electric current, which made for an eerie scene in the early morning fog the next day. Several days later a heavy rain finally relieved the wire of its light burden and the fireflies returned to the earth.

Mary Luke Tobin SL
and Betty Kelty
May 2004

One of the five resident ducks chose the side entrance area to Knobs Haven to lay her eggs and to brood over them for five weeks. The duck was tucked under a bush a few inches from the entrance steps and a few inches from the front drive. She sat on her eggs through car and foot traffic, rain, strong winds and even the hammering and sawing that was involved in mending the floor in the kitchen and dining area in that building. Sisters Theresa Louise and Bernadine Wiseman took faithful care in providing fresh water and food every day and were constant in their gentle concern.

The first batch of eggs (12) were destroyed by a cold snap. In the second attempt, three ducklings finally emerged to the great relief of the mother and all the interested watchers. After only a few hours, the mother led her fragile children to the water in Badin Pond. The grass and weeds on the way were sometimes higher than the little ones could manage so there was a lot of tumbling involved in their journey.

Perhaps the mother, even after all of her encouragement and “how to” antics, was not successful in getting her infants into the safety of the water because during the night of their birth-day, some creature removed them from this life without a trace. In the days that followed, some of us tried to avoid the front yard because the mother walked the entire area calling for her little ones. In her voice was the anguished tones of all the mothers of all species who have ever suffered such a loss.

October 2005

A long-time-treasured employee, Cheryl Mattingly’s daughter, Stacy, was married recently to a handsome young fellow at Holy Cross Church. Sister Rose Henry Higdon was asked by Stacy to be the flower girl/lady. Sister said, “When Stacy asked me to be part of her wedding party at my age of 88 3/4, no one had ever heard tell of such a thing, so I thought I better ask our ‘Superior General’ to get some kind of permission. I called Sister Mary Catherine Rabbitt and asked if I could do this and she answered, ‘Go for it and have a good time,’ so I went all out.”

Our amazingly gifted seamstress, Terri Miles, fashioned a very becoming dress and Sister took a “bando,” a curved piece of strong metal that we employed to keep our veils anchored on our head, wrapped a pink ribbon around it and secured some dainty flowers on it here and there “just so.” There was some discord and debate for months whether she could wear a comfortable pair of white tennis shoes with the outfit or if that would be too far from the cutting edge of fashion. In the end, she opted for a regular pair of black shoes.

Sister mused, “I don’t know why Stacy wanted me to be with all of her young friends. We are no kin at all. She either likes me or she is doing good to her enemy.” Stacy’s mom said, “Stacy has always had a great love for Sister Rose Henry and needed her to be part of her most important day.”

Sister Rose Henry had many funny stories about the experience, for example: “Everyone told me that I had on just the right amount of makeup. Truth be told, I didn’t have any makeup on. My blood pressure was up was all.”

Rose Henry SL participates in a wedding at Holy Cross Church
Sr. Robert Leona Edelen was in the in-house beauty parlor recently and wanted to pay her bill for services rendered by Joy Medley (pictured with Sr. Jeanne D’Arc Schleicher). Sister searched about on her person but could not find the elusive bills and was getting a little perturbed. Joy said in a calming tone, “Now, Sister, don’t go to heaven with a heart attack over this.” Joy Medley owned a beauty shop in Loretto in the 1960s. When the Sisters changed from their holy habits to ordinary clothes, Sr. Lucille Haywood, who had taught Joy in the third grade, called Joy to see if she could come teach her how to manage her hair, which had been under cover for many years. When Joy came, she found a whole audience of Sisters who wanted the same lesson. She has been coming once a week since then and has missed only two or three days during that whole time. She usually does 17 to 20 sisters every week. She has many, many stories.

Once an elderly client, Sr. Maurice, wanted her hair dyed red and during the procedure, she was having heart attack symptoms. A nurse was called and it was determined that sister needed to be shipped off to the hospital immediately but she refused to go until the job on her hair was complete. She went when she looked presentable and died shortly after arriving at the hospital.

Joy mused, “When I first started coming, many of the sisters who had been wearing the habit for years wanted me to fix their hair the way they wore it before they came to the convent, which, of course, would have been way out of style. Some wanted their hair dyed, which I did but over time I gradually talked them back into gray. One of the sisters went from the veil to a wig. I always used to cut her hair but one day she asked for a permanent. I was all excited because I had been trying to get her out of the wig for a long time because she really had nice hair. So, I took a long time giving her a cut and perm and she really looked nice. She looked at herself in the mirror and said, ‘Well, you really did a fine job and it makes me feel good.’ Then, if you can believe it, she opened her little wig bag and plopped that thing right over the new perm and went off as happy as could be.”

“Some sisters come in and say, ‘Joy, I just want a trim because I’m hard up for cash just now.’ I give them the regular cut anyway. Sr. Florentine Greenwell, who had spent some time in a concentration camp while missioned in China was my overseer in my early days here. She made sure that the sisters were on time for their appointment and that they paid me. No excuse was accepted for tardiness or non-payment.

“I love coming here. I have always loved being around the elderly because they are so wise and have such wonderful stories but you have to be patient and take the time to listen because old tales cannot be rushed along. You just have to take slow time and nurture with them. My sisters tell me that I’m a mere baby, next to their age. I had my whole education from the Sisters of Loretto. I had good, gentle teachers and we had a lovely time. I have been blessed in my life and I just hope I will have someone to do my hair when I reach the age of most of my clients.”

Jeanne D’Arc Schleicher SL, left, with stylist Joy Medley
Jeanne D’Arc Schleicher SL, left, with stylist Joy Medley
Mary Ann Coyle SL
November 1, 1925 — June 15, 2019
Mary Ann was born in Des Moines, Iowa, on All Saints Day. She entered the Sisters of Loretto at the age of 26, and was educated at Loretto Heights College, Catholic University and the University of Colorado. Mary Ann chaired the chemistry department and directed the Natural Sciences and Math Division at Loretto Heights. She spent several summers teaching at historically black colleges and spent a summer registering voters in Mississippi. In 1977, she became the first president of St. Mary's Academy after which she served the Community as a member of the Executive Committee and the central office staff. Mary Ann served as President of the Community from 1995 through 2000. Following her years as president, she served on various boards, including those of Havern School in Denver and Loretto Academy in El Paso. Mary Ann had a lifelong interest in and advocated for issues related to the environment, race and women.

Judy Ford Wynne CoL
December 1, 1934 — April 24, 2019
Judy was born in Chicago, Ill., and met the Sisters of Loretto when her family moved to Denver in 1945. She attended St. Mary’s Academy before moving to Kansas City. Judy entered the Sisters of Loretto in 1952 and was sent to St. Louis where she completed a bachelor’s degree at Webster, followed by a master’s at St. Louis University and a doctorate at Harvard. Judy was one of Loretto’s first co-members, receiving a dispensation from canonical vows and entering co-membership in 1970. She married Ed Wynne in 1972 and they had one son, Ted. Judy was a principal and educational consultant for the Archdiocese of Chicago for many years. She moved to Virginia after Ed’s death in 1999, spending time with family and friends.
Anita Marie Robertson SL                                      September 1, 1931 — May 17, 2019
Born in Denver, Colo. to a loving Catholic family, Anita Marie decided to join the Sisters of Loretto while attending Colorado State College of Education in Greeley. She taught primary grades for 14 years in Missouri, Kentucky and New Mexico. When her mother grew ill, Anita spent time caring for her. After her mother’s death, Anita went to work in the law library of Holland and Hart in Denver. Writing poetry gave her great joy, especially when some of her works were published in national magazines. More than 80 of her poems were later organized into a booklet, Songs of Joy from an Alien Land — her parting gift to Community members and friends as she left Denver for the Motherhouse Infirmary in Kentucky.

Patricia Kenoyer CoL                                          June 14, 1924 — August 17, 2019
Born in Kansas, Pat’s early life included a devotion to dance, among other interests. She graduated from Loretto Academy in Kansas City and went on to Webster College, joining the Sisters of Loretto in 1945. She earned master’s and doctorate degrees at St. Louis University and Fordham University. Pat served as Dean of Studies at Webster College and went on to work as a psychologist, teacher and counselor. She completed post-doctoral studies at the Menninger Clinic in Topeka, Kan. Pat served on Loretto high school boards, worked on the administrative staff and served on Loretto’s Executive Committee. In the 1980s, she taught in Kumasi, Ghana, for two years. Pat worked tirelessly on issues that included economic justice, prison reform and abolition of nuclear weapons. She also served as Loretto’s first nongovernmental representative at the United Nations. After 60 years, she asked to be dispensed from her vows, entering co-membership in 2007. She moved to the Loretto Motherhouse in 2016.

Anita Marie Robertson SL                                      September 1, 1931 — May 17, 2019
Born in Denver, Colo. to a loving Catholic family, Anita Marie decided to join the Sisters of Loretto while attending Colorado State College of Education in Greeley. She taught primary grades for 14 years in Missouri, Kentucky and New Mexico. When her mother grew ill, Anita spent time caring for her. After her mother’s death, Anita went to work in the law library of Holland and Hart in Denver. Writing poetry gave her great joy, especially when some of her works were published in national magazines. More than 80 of her poems were later organized into a booklet, Songs of Joy from an Alien Land — her parting gift to Community members and friends as she left Denver for the Motherhouse Infirmary in Kentucky.

Eldon Shields CoL                                             May 30, 1939 — August 10, 2019
Eldon was born in Corona, Calif., and later lived with his family in North Dakota, Arkansas and Oklahoma. He served in the Air Force before attending the University of Oklahoma, and earned a doctorate in psychology at Indiana State University. In 1973, he married Marcella Hannon. Eldon worked as Chief Psychologist at Fairview State Hospital in Pennsylvania, where he and Marcella developed a new, successful treatment program. In 1982, he and Marcella established a leadership skills program in Canada. In 1999, he founded the Children’s Peace Theatre in Toronto with the support of the Loretto Mission Fund. Eldon served as a Loretto representative on the NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security.

Unabridged remembrances are found on the website: https://www.lorettocommunity.org/category/obituaries/
Memorials and Tributes of Honor
April - June 2019

In Memory of:  
Requested by:

Gordie Albi*  
Loretto Community
Leon Albin  
Walter Fijal
Elise André*  
Maureen Flannery  
Loretto Community
Emma Avina  
Dr. Marilyn Montenegro
Jack Ballantine  
Beverley Ballantine
Martha Belke SL  
Mr. and Mrs. David Bischof  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dicken
Albert Burton Barnett  
Russell Coleman  
Loretto Community & Staff
Carlino Family  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Werth
Mary Genevieve Cavanaugh SL  
Loretto Community
Patricia Clancy Schuerger  
Thomas Schuerger
Jane Windburn Close  
Loretto Heights College  
Class of 1931  
Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf Bradac
Rose Colley SL  
Dawn Dorsey
Kate Compton  
Kaye Strom
Mary Ann Coyle SL  
Frances Fryberger  
Dr. Elinor Greenberg  
Loretto Community  
Dana Starbuck  
Bonnie DeHart  
Eva Antone Ross
Marge Cozzens  
Jean King
Mary Aline Dalton SL  
Margaret Brisnehan
Donna Smith Dwyer  
David Dwyer
Rev. David Edwards  
Maureen Flanigan*  
Loretto Community
Charlotte Ann Ell SL  
Rev. Joseph Spina, OSF
John Ellen Plumb SL  
1st grade teacher
St. Michael School, Houston, TX  
Mr. and Mrs. John Webre
Wilma Fiori  
Mary Sandoval Rome
Marie Agnes Fobes SL  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Swanson
Ann Francis Gleason SL  
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Harris
Gondina Greenwell SL  
Mr. and Mrs. William Mariner
Jacqueline Gennan Wexler*  
Elizabeth Burrows
Marie Noël Hebert SL  
James Hebert
Elinor Hennessy Bax  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Himmelberg III
Joseph Highland  
Mary A. Highland
Patricia Hummel SL  
Loretto Community
Bob and Pat Hutchison  
Mr. and Mrs. Abe Campbell
Anne Jenkins Arnoult  
Denise Ann Clifford SL
Patricia Kenoyer*  
Loretto Community
John J. Kinealy  
Clifford Family  
Theresa Kinealy*  
Loretto Community & Staff
Sandra Krebs  
David Krebs
Mary Leibman*  
Rose Marie Hayden
Frances Lenzen Cassilly  
Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Edwards

An asterisk (*) following a name identifies a Loretto Co-member.
Patty Link Parry
Russell Coleman
Mary Mayo Ochiltree
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sherman

Loretto:
Sisters of Loretto
Louisville KY, 1980s
Sandra McClure

Loretto:
Sisters who taught me,
Loretto High School
Louisville, KY
Mary Joe Zeillmann

Loretto:
Sisters who taught us
at Our Lady of Good Counsel,
Kansas City, MO
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Duke

Francene Lum SL
Monica Chew
Ann Manganaro SL
Mary Ann Phillips
Edwin Mary McBride SL
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sise
Penny McMullen SL
Virginia Day
Dr. John and Helen Metcalf
Yvonne Harding
Bill Minelli
Sally Minelli

Mike Montgomery
Frank J. Schiavo, Jr.
Regina Morrissey
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Morrissey
Alva Nicholas
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Combs
Betty Obal SL
Virginia Day
Anthony Peña
Loretto Community
Bennie Peña
John Angell
Mr. and Mrs. Les Brown
Martha Dell
Joan Kidnay
Loretto Community & Staff
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Loden
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Martin
Mary Marjorie McDonald
Carla Peña-Gaiser
Rosalie Marie Phillips SL
Mr. and Mrs. Randall Dean
Thomas Stauder
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Stevison
Michael Stevison
Raymond Stevison
Marija Puc-Remec
Andrej Remec
Joyce Ann Puschel Reitman
Sisters of Loretto
James Rauen
Janet Rauen
Anita Marie Robertson SL
Loretto Community
Ann Mary Schilling SL
Jean Clare Schilling SL
Kenneth Haner

Mr. and Mrs. Paul M. Schmidt
Regina Schmidt
Eldon Shields*
Loretto Community
Margaret Michelle Skees SL
Principal, Guardian Angel
School 1953
J.A.M. Hadcock, CRS
Donna Smith Dwyer
David Dwyer
Carol Stipetich de Leo
Diane Boos
Louis Straub Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. John Straub
Alice Eugene Tighe SL
Mr. and Mrs. William Mariner
Mary Luke Tobin SL
Kay Mullen
Tooien Family
Patricia Kratschmer
C.J. and Esther Webre
Pat Montgomery
Werth Family
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Werth
Texcie Willcox Veasey
Barbara Rancour
Jane Winburn Close
Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf Bradac
Myra Wisniewski
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ratkewicz
Judy Wynne*
Catherine Flaatten
Loretto Community
Therese Stawowy*
Gene Zoella
Beverley Ballantine
In Honor of:
Requested by:

Mary E. (Buffy) Boesen SL
Bonnie De Hart
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Furay
Elizabeth Ann Compton SL
Kaye Strom
Maureen Corrigan and Family
Ann Corrigan
Donna Day SL
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Cuddihee
Deborah Don
Robert Clifford
Marie Ego SL
Mr. and Mrs. William Lewis
Dr. Tess Malumphy
Mr. and Mrs. David Wagner
Maureen Fiedler SL
Jennifer Morgan
Mary Nelle Gage SL
Kay Mullen
Randall Ritchey
JoAnn Gates*
Patricia Burnett
Jeannine Gramick SL
Nancy Krody
John Le Bedda, II
Jennifer Morgan
Joan O’Neill
Richard Rivard
Mary Katherine Hammett SL
94th birthday
Dr. Marilyn Montenegro
Daniel and Emily Hamrin
Patricia Hummel SL
Haner Family
Kenneth Haner

Mary Jo Highland
Mary Highland
Gabriel Mary Hoare SL
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Horan
The Hummel Sisters
Anne Hummel
Loretto:
2019 Jubilarians
Carol Ann Ptacek SL
Loretto Community
Mary Frances Lottes SL
Lottes Charitable Trust
Mary Ellen McElroy SL
Mr. and Mrs. William Mariner
Pearl McGivney SL
Bette Wilbers
James Meyer
Mary Highland
Jennifer Morgan
Tray Morgan
Jeffrie Morgan
Newton Family
Helen Teter
Barbara Nicholas SL
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Combs
Dawn Dorsey
Valerie Novak SL
Nancy Hillhouse
Paulette Peterson*
Dawn Dorsey
Mary Alice Rudisell Aguillard
Barbara Rancour
Sylvia Sedillo SL
Mary Lou Trujillo

Marie Lourde Steckler SL
Mary Joe Zeillmann
Mary Swain SL
Mr. and Mrs. William Mariner
Kathleen Tighe SL
75th Jubilee
Jackson Bradt
Joseph Tally
Kathleen Vonderhaar SL
Mr. and Mrs. William Mariner
Webster University
William and Elaine Neil
Theresa Louise Wiseman SL
Mr. and Mrs. John Stevenson
Kathy Wright SL
Alice Morrison
To Autumn

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;
To bend with apples the moss’d cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For summer has o’er-brimm’d their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
Or on a half-reap’d furrow sound asleep,
Drows’d with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers:
And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep
Steady thy laden head across a brook;
Or by a cyder-press, with patient look,
Thou watchest the last oozings hours by hours.

Where are the songs of spring? Ay, Where are they?
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
Among the river sallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
Hedge-crickets sing; and now with treble soft
The red-breast whistles from a garden-croft;
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

John Keats