

Loretto

MAGAZINE

Fall 2020

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Loretto repents

Celebrating Jubilarians

Loretto's farmworker ministry

Loretto schools dive into distance learning

... and more



Loretto: Seeking justice for migrant farmworkers for more than 60 years



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Front cover:

Painting: The Artichoke Pickers, *Henrietta Shore, 1934*. A WPA commission courtesy of the Fine Arts Program, Public Buildings Service, U.S. General Services Administration commissioned through the New Deal Projects. Courtesy of California State Parks, 2020

Inset: A young farmworker, 2015
(Photo courtesy Carolyn Jaramillo CoL)



Back cover:

At the Motherhouse in Kentucky: Loretto's monument to enslaved persons.
Created by Roberta Hudlow SL.
(Photo by Donna Mattingly SL)



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 adults in need. Our ministries are diverse.

The Loretto Community, founded in 1812 as the Sisters of Loretto, is a congregation of Catholic vowed Sisters and Co-members.

Loretto co-members are those who, by mutual commitment, belong to the Community through a sharing of spirit and values, and by participating in activities that further our mission.

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Dear Reader,

In ordinary times, September marks new beginnings, familiar to us in North America as the beginning of a school year. It marks the end of vacation time for some — traditionally spent happily away from a work setting, time shared more

leisurely with family and friends, or in the long tradition of Loretto as educators, there have been summer classes to take, refresher courses, classroom bulletin boards to prepare.

For the Loretto Community, summer is traditionally a gathering time for us in Assembly, for the past couple of years at a conference center in Shepherdsville, Ky., a 40-minute drive from Loretto Motherhouse.

This is no ordinary time, is it? We are masked, and physically distanced from one another. There is attention to safe practices to protect ourselves and others from the possible spread of the coronavirus. We experience the trauma and unjust reality of racism accompanied by new and unfamiliar insight into stark realities, or maybe merely hints, of white privilege. No ordinary time. No gathering in Shepherdsville.

And yet, the ever creative spirit of Loretto prevailed and our Assembly met online. Around 100 devices clicked into Zoom each morning for four days in July. That is, daily, members of the Loretto Community

gathered to pray and learn and reflect together in groups large and small. We were not masked. It felt that we were not even at a distance from each other. You will see some Assembly images in this issue.

The gifts of your love and interest and support of Loretto bless us daily. This is “fruitful mission” as we read in *I Am the Way*, Loretto’s Constitutions, where we meet the Spirit of God revealed in the lives of everyone. This issue is filled with images and stories of fruitful mission. With your resourceful support, we participate in weaving together our life in community in this world where we embrace works of mercy, charity, justice and love in a spirit of informed openness to the deep needs facing us in the Church, on Earth, in our Cosmos. Let’s always bless one another with these gifts as we express our thanks and appreciation.

Love, peace, *namaste*,

Barbara Nicholas SL
President of Loretto

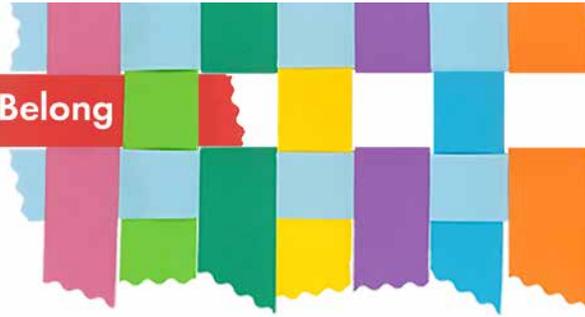


Photo courtesy of Cathy Smith SL

Loretto Community members enjoy a light moment at a previous Loretto Assembly.

Loretto Assembly

2020 Vision: Seeing Where We Belong



Sharon Kassing SL

'219 individuals registered for the [online] assembly and we've had as many as 116 boxes on the screen at any one time. Satisfaction so far has been extremely high. The credit goes to all those presenters who put together such thorough and creative presentations and to the members of the Comm-Tech Team who wove it all together so seamlessly.'

Sharon Kassing SL, Assembly Planning Committee

Thank you to the 2020 Assembly Planning Committee: Sally Dunne CoL, Sharon Kassing SL, Mary Catherine Rabbitt SL, Lisa Reynolds CoL and Cathy Smith SL



Above: Screenshots of just a few of the 200-plus Loretto Community members who participated in Loretto's dynamic and successful online Assembly. Top row from left: Stacy Fitzwater CoL, Mary Ann Cunningham SL, Sally Dunne CoL Bottom row: Jean East CoL, Helen Santamaria SL and Irma Avila SL



Left: Mary Pellegrino, CSJ, a keynote speaker at Assembly 2020. Mary's message challenged women's religious communities to embrace their special calling to witness to the presence and power of God in a society that lives in chaos, confusion and fear, and to be a prophetic witness to truth, grief and hope.

Right: Guest speaker Linda Rivas, Executive Director and Managing Attorney, Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center, El Paso, an organization dedicated to meeting the legal needs of asylum seekers, and advocating for family reunification and for the dignity and rights of all migrants.



Standing up for racial justice

Loretto Community members participated in Black Lives Matter demonstrations across the country, including in Denver, New York City and Kansas City, Mo.

On the value of protesting, Eleanor Craig SL says: “I often think of a conversation I had with Dorothy Day when I was young and she was old. I asked her, since much of the protesting she had done had not succeeded, what was the point? Her reply came quickly: ‘I didn’t do it for the results, I did it because it was the right thing for me to do.’ I feel that’s what I’ve agreed to, to show up, walk shoulder to shoulder with others. To stand up and be counted.”



Above: A television news reporter interviews Martha Crawley CoL.

Below: Sue Kenney CoL and Pat McCormick SL take part in a demonstration in Denver in June.

Photos courtesy of Maureen Flanigan CoL and Sue Kenney CoL





We repent

Ann Rhodes, the youngest of the first six Sisters of Loretto, arrived at the log cabin that was to be home and school with Tom, an enslaved man, her property. It was 1812.

We know that. We know that Tom was sold to purchase the first log cabin and the property surrounding it for the sisters near what is now Loretto Motherhouse. We know that other women coming to Loretto brought enslaved persons. We know there were unmarked graves of enslaved persons either at that property or at the Motherhouse. We know that some women who were enslaved became Oblates, making annual vows.

We have searched for the names of these men and women, and for their survivors. Many Loretto records, names of those who lived at Loretto, correspondence, bills and deeds, were destroyed in a fire in 1858.

In 2000, Loretto dedicated a slave memorial on our Our Lady of Sorrows Cemetery grounds. The sculptor was Roberta Hudlow SL. The names engraved are the fruit of research by Joan Campbell SL. Beneath the names the plaque reads, “Pray for us.”

Slavery is Loretto’s original sin. Slavery is the original sin of the United States. We mourn for those we enslaved and for their children and children’s children, all of whose lives have been damaged and diminished by our participation in racism.

We repent.

We repent by prayer and fasting and committing ourselves to serve others. Slowly we’ve come to understand the meaning of systemic racism and ways we benefit from racism. Individually, and as the Loretto Community, we strive to change ourselves, Loretto and our broader world.

Say their names

Oblates

Loretto Convents, Kentucky

Sister Winifred Abell
Sister Lucy - Elizabeth Yates
Sister Felicitas - Teresa Heifner
Sister Catherine - Julia A. Pierce
Sister Natilia - Anne Kohoe
Sister Felicitas - Mary Smith
Sister Mercilina - Anne Moore
Sister Euphrasia - Ann Bowling

St. Mary's Convent, Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Sister _____ Wallace

St. Vincent's Academy, Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Sister Gabreele
Sister Seraphine
Sister Genevieve
Sister Regina
Sister Stanislaus

Slaves

Loretto Convents, Kentucky

Anna and George
Sarah and Tom
The Drury Family of ten slaves
Jerome Boone's Family: parents and twelve children
Jake
Jane with her increase
The Clements Family of slaves: Nancy, her children Jos., Lewis, George, John, Ignatius, and all her increase
Moses, Lewis, Charles, George, Gusty, Jane, Jacob, Elizabeth, Mary Thompson and her child Elias
Aunt Gracy
Leo Clements-Nerinx, son of Black George, his wife, Matilda, and five children
Aunt Belle
The slaves inherited in 1838 by Sister Mary Laurentia Buckman

Bethlehem Convent, Perryville, Missouri

Seven slaves including three children
Dick

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St. Genevieve, Missouri

Mary Genevieve
Mary Jane

St. Vincent's Academy, Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Six female children: O. and H. Paul, M. and C. Hunter, E. and M.A. Linen

And all those whose names have been forgotten.



Memorial by Roberta Hudlow SL; photo: Donna Mattingly SL

Close-up of the Loretto Slave Memorial at the Motherhouse in Kentucky. The memorial was established April 25, 2000 to honor enslaved persons at Loretto locations, including the Motherhouse. The names listed here appear on the memorial (see photo, back cover).

¡Si, se puede!*

‘We met migrant farmworker families who lived in terrible situations, shared simple meals with them and held songfests. We learned their needs and responded; this included gathering their young children from the fields to begin day care programs, facilitating reception of sacraments, enrolling their children in migrant schools, taking them for medical care, planning fun nights when all of the migrant families were invited to come together, young and old. We offered friendship and care ...’

Cathy Mueller SL
former President, Loretto Community



Cathy Mueller SL worked with United Farmworkers in the San Fernando Valley, Calif., in 1972.



Photos courtesy of Cathy Mueller SL

In Powell, Wyo., Loretto Community members who worked with migrant workers; clockwise from left: Susan Carol McDonald SL, Kathleen Vonderhaar SL, Mary Margaret Murphy SL, Cathy Mueller SL, Mary Jean Friel CoL and Mary Bundy CoL, with Father Angel, who offered pastoral presence and programs.

***¡Si, se puede!** (*Yes we can!*): This farmworker-rights slogan, reflecting the movement’s stance in the face of hostile opposition, is attributed to organizer Dolores Huerta, who has spent much of her life tirelessly working for migrant worker rights. Along with César Chávez, she was a vital force behind progress that was made starting in the 1960s through boycotts, strikes, public awareness and legal efforts. Loretto Community members joined these efforts. **¡Si, se puede!**

Standing with farmworkers

The Lord proclaims: Do what is just and right; rescue the oppressed from the power of the oppressor. Don't exploit or mistreat the refugee ...

Jeremiah 22:3

Some highlights from the early years:

- Loretto's ministry with migrant farmworkers took off in the late 1960s when novices and young professed sisters were sent out across Colorado each summer from the Loretto Center in Denver to help migrants who worked in the fields. Loretto also provided assistance to farmworkers in Wyoming.
- In the late 1960s, Jean Patrice Golden SL and Mary Jean Friel (Sister of Loretto at the time, now a co-member) went out to live in a migrant camp in Colorado, providing on-the-ground-support.
- In 1970, Ruth Shy SL (Ruth later left the order) and Mary Jean Friel traveled to California to work with César Chávez. Ruth worked in the fields, and Mary Jean communicated with the press and helped with donations.
- At the height of the lettuce boycott in the early '70s, many sisters worked to support the farmworkers in the San Fernando Valley in California (Ruth Shy acted as coordinator at the field office), and in Los Angeles, Florida, Philadelphia and New York City.
- Across the United States, Loretto Community members provided housing and support to those who were traveling in support of boycotts and strikes.

The work goes on ...

Loretto continues its efforts to support migrant farmworkers, who are still underpaid and overworked in hazardous conditions where they are exposed to extreme weather and dangerous pesticides; in many states they still have few protections; most do not have health insurance. Employers have not provided adequate coronavirus protection, including, often, places to wash.

Loretto Community members recently donated money from their stimulus checks to help this vulnerable population during the coronavirus pandemic, a total of \$50,000. (The remaining stimulus money went to Loretto's Hunger Fund and Special Needs committees).



Loretto Community members Rox Monterastelli CoL, in green, and Carolyn Jaramillo CoL, at far right, participate in a National Farmworker Ministry action in 2017. Rox serves on the National Farm Worker Ministry board. Photo courtesy of Rox Monterastelli CoL

César Chávez and Loretto: Seeing the movie

By Mary Ann McGivern SL

Mary Jean Friel CoL and her three grown children, Nathan, Michael and Carolyn, attended the San Diego premier of the 2014 movie “Cesar Chavez.” During the years the movie covers, Mary Jean was César’s assistant, answering calls, arranging meetings and dealing with whoever came looking for him. By the end of the movie, which took us to 1978, Nate was almost 3; Mike was 2 and Carolyn was still nursing.

Mary Jean and family aren’t in the movie. Her son Mike says on his Facebook page that like all of his Hollywood acting efforts, he was edited out. Mary Jean says it’s a very good movie, accurate in what it covers, recognizing the limits of a story that can be told in 100 minutes.

Mary Jean had been introduced to farmworkers in the sugar beet fields of Greeley and Fort Lupton, Colo., by Jean Patrice Golden SL when she was a first-year Loretto novice in 1964. She, Cathy Mueller SL, Mary Margaret Murphy SL and other novices and young professed (including the author of this article) worked summers during the 1960s running day care and other services. It was an introduction to a level of poverty none of us had ever seen.

Then in 1968 Loretto Anne Madden SL enlisted anyone in Denver who had worked with farmworkers and could report on lobbying for passage of laws regulating water ac-

cess, housing and wages. After that intensive course in running a legislative campaign, Mary Jean went to work for the farmworkers in California. It was there that she met Pearl McGivney, who would later become a Sister of Loretto, and in 2012, Loretto’s president.

During the 1973 Loretto Assembly Mary Jean was arrested in Delano, Calif. The delegates to Assembly sent two of their number, Ann Pat Ware SL and Cathy Mueller SL, to California to take Mary Jean’s place and bring her home. Mary Jean came out of jail and onto the airplane shoeless and without luggage. Arriving at the Loretto Motherhouse with Cathy Mueller, she got out of the car, walked into the chapel and talked straight for an hour to the delegates and observers about the strikers’ conditions.

About the movie, Mary Jean said she was glad her children were with her to watch it. The helicopters, violence and police jeers, though only in two parts of the film, brought back the chaos and fear to Mary Jean’s mind across the years.

At breakfast four years ago, talking about the movie, Mary Jean and Pearl were remembering that strike. Pearl had been in Salinas, running a union-organizing office. She didn’t even know Mary Jean had been arrested when Ann Pat appeared at the office door and said she was there to take Mary Jean’s place. What could she do to help?

Pearl’s account is one Mary Jean had never heard. She said there was a press blackout across the nation. People were being arrested wholesale, including Dorothy Day. César was fasting. Strikers were beaten by police and growers — but nobody was writing about what was happening.

Pearl asked Ann Pat, “Well, what work do you do?” Ann Pat said she worked for the National Council of Churches. “Could you call the church people you know and ask them to call the press? Can you break the blackout?” Ann Pat, in her polyester suit, nylons and pumps, sat down at a desk, pulled an address book out of her purse, and began making calls. Pearl says that Ann Pat broke the news blackout.

Pearl and Mary Jean both say, “See the movie.”

*The work continues. Carolyn Jaramillo CoL, center, at a farmworker rights march, Fresno, Calif., 2017
Photo courtesy of Carolyn Jaramillo CoL*





Above: Pearl McGivney SL, in red, standing second from right, at her going-away party in Auburndale, Fla., before moving to Denver to assume her role as President of the Loretto Community in 2012. (Photo: Alicia Zapata CoL)

Below: Receiving assistance at Centro Campesino in Auburndale, Fla.

**Blessed are those
who hunger and thirst
for righteousness,
for they will be filled.**

Matthew 5:6



¡Si, se puede!
Pearl McGivney SL
(Loretto President 2012-2019)
left a legacy of commitment
and compassion in Florida

In the early 1970s Pearl McGivney traveled to California to work with nonviolent organizer, activist and labor leader César Chávez. Pearl opened a legal aid office in Salinas. She fought for justice alongside farmworkers, helping to organize boycotts and strikes.

After several years, César asked Pearl to take up organizing work in Florida. Once on the ground, she found that families’ basic needs overrode the push to unionize and she founded Centro Campesino in Auburndale.

Centro Campesino’s goal, according to Alicia Zapata CoL, who worked with Pearl in Florida for 28 years, was to “listen to the people and respond to their needs.” The center hosted a food bank, started a housing committee, assisted women who were victims of domestic violence, provided aid with immigration issues. They organized dinners at churches where locals could socialize with migrant families and arranged Mexican dance classes for youth to help preserve their culture.

¡Si, se puede!

The *¡Si, se puede!* (Yes, we can!) sign hanging on Pearl’s office door during her presidency was a reminder of the work done, and the work still to do.

Pearl now lives in Kentucky at the Motherhouse; she enjoys recollecting the years working with migrant families.



Loretto co-member Jossy Eyre, founder of Women's Bean Project, was a trailblazer

By Tamra Ryan
CEO, Women's Bean Project

Jossy Eyre founded Women's Bean Project (WBP) in 1989 as a result of her volunteer work at a day shelter for homeless women. Jossy saw that while the shelter kept women safe, it wasn't helping them make lasting changes in their lives. Jossy bought \$500 worth of beans and put two homeless women to work — the first step in building Women's Bean Project, the social enterprise. Jossy believed that paying women a wage was critical for self-respect and long-term success, and that chronically unemployed women needed a job training program with a longer duration and more intensive services than those generally available.

From its humble beginnings, the Bean Project has grown into a nationally-known transitional employment program that operates within a manufacturing operation. More than 1,000 disadvantaged women have earned their futures at WBP; training opportunities and annual product sales have grown dramatically; and the organization's reach has expanded to include a sales presence in 1,000 stores across the U.S. The social enterprise model gives WBP

a sustainable way to achieve its mission and usher those with significant barriers into the economic mainstream.

From Jossy's original vision to address unmet social needs, Women's Bean Project's overarching purpose — to provide a transitional job as a stepping stone to self-sufficiency — has remained constant.

Many years after leaving the Bean Project, Jossy stayed involved by visiting annually to recruit program participants to spiritual retreats sponsored by the Sisters of Loretto. Whether she was making a visit to the Bean Project or traveling the world to help marginalized women find their power through employment, Jossy's determination was ever-present. The team at Women's Bean Project is proud that we have stayed true to her original vision while growing our business to have a greater impact than Jossy dreamed possible.

Editor: Jossy died on April 20, 2020. Her legacy lives on as WBP continues its work with vulnerable women.

Above: Jossy Eyre CoL, seated at center, at Women's Bean Project, which was founded by Jossy in 1989. Photo courtesy of Women's Bean Project

Loretto Volunteer walks in Jossy Eyre's footsteps at Women's Bean Project

I love the idea that as a single individual I can help make an impact in the lives of others, especially through an empowering non-profit like WBP.

Madeline Beulieau, Loretto Volunteer

By Annie Rosenkranz
Director, Loretto Volunteer Program



Madeline Beulieau, pictured at left, is the first Loretto Volunteer serving at Women's Bean Project (WBP). Madeline grew up in Vestal, N.Y., and attended Canisius College to play collegiate level soccer, while pursuing a degree in biology and a minor in Spanish. She was excited to move to a new part of the country for the first time and be a part of the Loretto Community and Loretto Volunteer house in Denver.

Madeline is approaching this year with openness and excitement, anticipating what she can offer and what she will gain in her service year.

Madeline was drawn to serve with WBP because of her shared commitment to building up women, particularly through creating health-centered products for sale in their communities. Madeline is a positive individual who, alongside her LoVo experience, is applying to medical schools, hoping to become a doctor.

Madeline hopes to contribute her energy, enthusiasm and compassion to the women of WBP. And she hopes to gain experiences that will inform her own growth both as an individual and as a future healthcare provider. Madeline is inspired to support women in their journeys toward new paths and new opportunities. She believes that lifting up women, particularly those who have experienced homelessness and incarceration, provides a means to work toward justice within unjust systems.

Photo: Dr. Allyson Backstrom



Madeline Beulieau (far right) serving on a medical mission trip to Costa Rica while at Canisius College in New York. Madeline helped set up and support pop-up clinics providing medical and dental services to community residents.

Stepping into LoVo's directorship with a full heart

I feel a sense of grace ...

“2020 is a turbulent time to enter a new role, particularly one centered in working for justice and acting for peace. And yet, I feel a sense of grace in the opportunity to rise to the challenges of this time, both in my life and in my work with Loretto.

“Turbulent times are opportunities for transformation — and I am grateful to participate in that transformation as a part of Loretto and the Volunteer Program,” said program director Annie Rosenkranz.

Loretto is grateful for Annie's resilience and can-do attitude.

Born and raised in St. Louis, Annie is thrilled to find herself rooted in her hometown after living, volunteering and working her way across all seven continents.

She joins the Loretto Volunteer (LoVo) Program after spending the previous seven years working in international initiatives and student services at St. Louis University. She studied political science and global development studies at Grinnell College and has a master's degree in public administration from St. Louis University.

Annie's passions lie in travel, food, camping, adventure and nature. Her approach to work and life is rooted in solidarity, growing in community, seeking justice and nurturing relationships. She is thrilled to be a part of the Loretto



Annie Rosenkranz
Director, Loretto Volunteer Program

Community's work toward justice and actions for peace. She feels her personal and professional values are welcomed, nurtured and cultivated by the Loretto Community and the Volunteer Program.



The Loretto Volunteer Program pairs recent college grads with social justice organizations for a formative year, or more, of service. Through full-time work at non-profit organizations and intentional, communal living, volunteers walk in the footsteps of Loretto Community members. They live out the Community's mission to work for justice and act for peace.

Current Loretto Volunteers and Placements

Allison Alderman	Urban Peak	Denver
Madeline Beaulieu	Women's Bean Project	Denver
Becca Krasky	Angelica Village	Denver
Emma Wellman	Havern School	Denver
Annie Bryan	Kelly Memorial Food Pantry	El Paso
Sarah Critchfield	Villa Maria	El Paso
Elyse McMahan	Las Americas	El Paso
Hayley Morgan	Opportunity Center	El Paso
Helen Schlosser	Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services	El Paso

2020 Jubilarians

75 years

We asked the celebrants to tell us what they are up to these days ...



Dolores Kelledy SL
celebrated her 75th Jubilee
on April 25. Dolores died at
the Loretto Motherhouse
on Aug. 30.



Jean Kelley SL
celebrated her 75th Jubilee
on April 25. She spends her time,
especially during this coronavirus
confinement, doing some reading,
meditating and watching news.



Marietta Goy SL
celebrated her 75th Jubilee
on April 25. She spends her
time in prayer and meditation
with the other sisters.

2020 Jubilarians

50 years



Lois Conarchy SL celebrated her 50th Jubilee on June 28. Lois says she is continuing her ministry of prayer and service to the elderly at St. Augustine Home run by the Little Sisters of the Poor in Indianapolis, Ind.



Sylvia Ginder SL celebrated her 50th Jubilee on Aug. 15. She spends her time remembering God's blessings and the gifts of friendship through the years, and is grateful for the loving care in the comfort of Mary's Haven at Loretto Motherhouse.



Therese Stawowy CoL celebrates her 50th year of co-membership on Dec. 1. Her activities include connecting with friends by phone, volunteering at hospice and attending online classes. She feels nurtured by Loretto and its committees, by her friendships within Loretto, and, especially, by her spirituality group.

25 years



Beth Blissman CoL

celebrated her 25th Jubilee on June 20 (Summer Solstice). She currently represents Loretto at the United Nations, and enjoys serving on the Intentional Living Committee and as a Loretto Earth Network coordinator. Beth also cherishes time with Loretto's Community Group 21 and Loretto friends (via Zoom), singing in Lavender Light Gospel Choir and organic gardening with her partner, Kim Shepard.

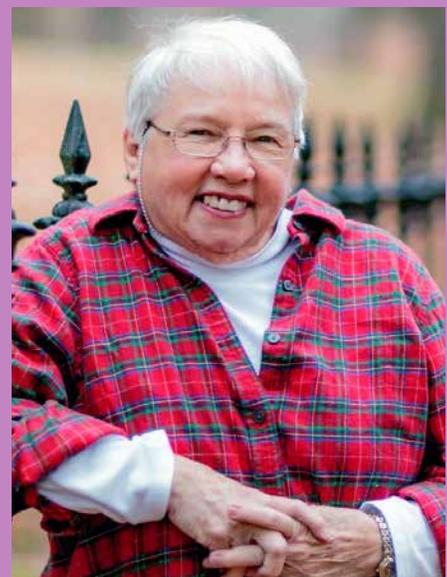


Marion Panyan CoL

celebrates her 25th Jubilee on Nov. 18. She enjoys morning walks to explore and admire creation and expressing gratitude wherever and whenever possible, for as Rumi says, "Giving thanks for abundance is sweeter than the abundance itself." She's also meeting online with her book club, Loretto's Community Group 20 and Centering Prayer friends.

Susan Classen CoL

celebrates her 25th Jubilee on Nov. 24. She is spending her time learning, whether it's about green building techniques for a planned cabin at the Cedars of Peace Retreat Center or techniques for establishing native plantings. She's also learning to see how she's been shaped by white privilege, along with ways to move beyond personal and systemic racial bias. She finds great meaning and fulfillment in her life in Loretto as she learns to stretch and grow.



Mary Seematter CoL

celebrated her 25th Jubilee on June 10. She was enjoying water exercise classes, but that hasn't been available since March. She hopes to get back soon. She meets with a group of six women from her parish who started meeting about 10 years ago for faith sharing; they still do a fair amount of that, and have ventured into other topics.

Loretto rises to the challenge

Loretto Academy, El Paso Grades pre-K through 12

Loretto Academy students, faculty and staff members are busier than ever. We are thankful for the resources to continue to educate our students and to continue to nurture a strong sense of community.

We have ensured that all students have access to the technology they need to work from home, and our teachers are creative with interactive assignments. Students have written poems, taken photos and drawn to express their emotions during this uneasy time.

Starting Sept. 8, we initiated a hybrid model, a mix of online and in-person classes.

Thank you to Buffy Boesen SL and Melissa Casale for information on distance learning at Loretto Academy.



Photos courtesy of Loretto Academy

Top left: Elementary art classes made signs to thank health care and essential workers for their hard work to keep us safe.

Left: Fifth-graders, wearing 'El Paso Strong' shirts, celebrated Field Day with a virtual twist. They engaged in fun activities, including exercising and a scavenger hunt. Teachers surprised them by delivering a bag with pizza ingredients the day before. At the end of the activity-filled day, the students made pizza as they do every year on Field Day.

Above: During SHOUT (Students Helping Out) Week, high school students were encouraged to work outside and enjoy fresh air and sunshine.

Challenge of distance learning

St. Mary's Academy, Denver Grades pre-K through 12

By Regina Drey SL

Distance learning was a creative and challenging time at St. Mary's Academy with Zoom and technology giving students, whether junior kindergartners or seniors, new ways of learning.

Teachers created engaging lessons, worked with students individually and in small groups, and communicated with parents. Earth Week events, Senior Retreat, Baccalaureate Mass, May Crowning and other traditions happened in new, meaningful ways. Even the beloved closing ceremonies and graduation moved to the parking lot but exuded a spirit of joy.

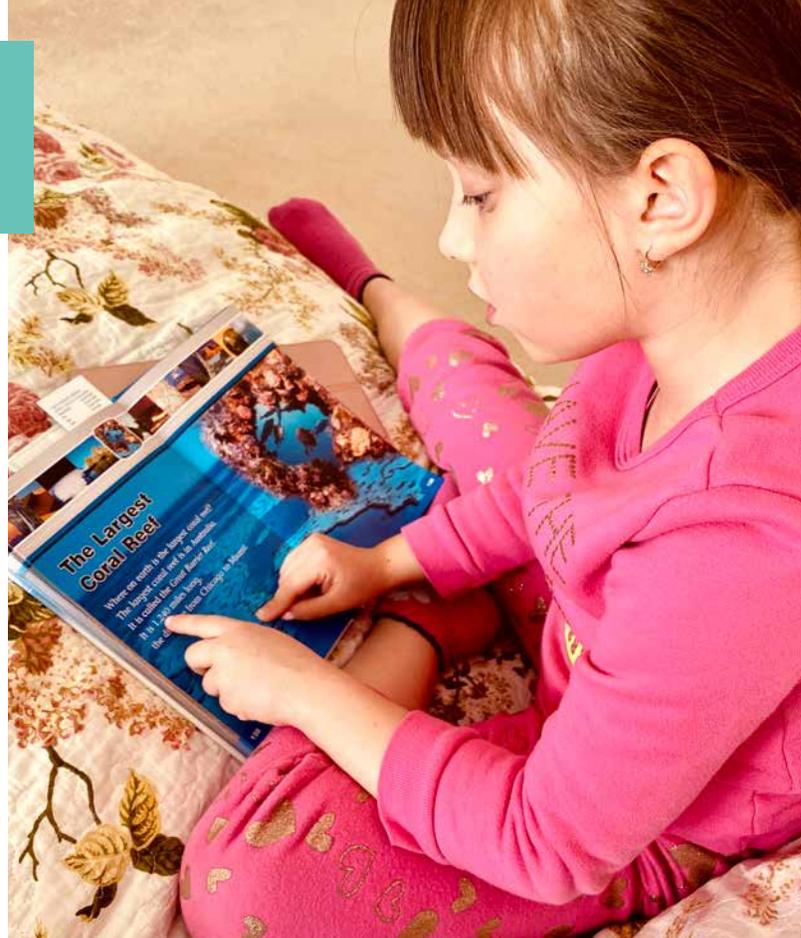
While home, students were involved in the larger community by making and donating masks, being pen pals with children at their service-learning sites, and creating cards and videos for Motherhouse Infirmity residents.

On Sept. 1 students in all grades returned to campus for full-time five-days-a-week learning with a small number continuing to learn remotely. The gratitude and happiness of being together again, even if at home, was palpable.

Top right: Learning to read, grade 1

Right: Finding a cozy place to learn, pre-kindergarten

Below: Art project with objects found in the yard, grade 1



Photos courtesy of St. Mary's Academy





Above: Abid's mother Sakina. The sisters have been giving her children extra support so they could keep learning. Below, Sister Maria, standing, teaches computer skills to teachers who will then pass on their knowledge to their students; outside of the school, teachers do not have access to computers or training.



What does distance learning look like in Pakistan?

By Nasreen Daniel SL

When the government started online classes for children of all grades, we sisters pasted our web address on our school's gate for the parents. Abid is one of the students in our school. His mother asked how she could use that link for her children who study in our school at different levels. I told her I would write out the link and she could get online on her phone so her kids could attend classes. I asked her to show me her phone; "I have no phone," she said.

"But I have seen, you had a good one."

She kept quiet for some time and then said, "Their father cannot go for a daily wage now, and we had no food for our kids; we sold the phone and got food for a month."

What a state of helplessness! What to do? Should we call her kids to school so they could use our phones or computer in order to get online for their lessons? Or should we buy a phone for her — but then for how many others? Where to stop? How to justify it? Where would we get the resources, and where to put the limit to our charity?

We started giving a lot of homework for the days the kids are at home. She has three in our school; we take one at a time. When they arrive, we first ask them to wash with soap, and we are very careful. When they leave, whoever was with them takes a shower and changes her clothes.

The people who live in our area in the outskirts of Lahore are mostly daily wagers, pushcart vendors, auto-rickshaw drivers, shopkeepers, sweepers and other low-paid workers. When the world is fighting the coronavirus pandemic, poverty-stricken people are fighting a war to survive. They struggle to satisfy their kids' hunger, pay utility bills, rent and medical expenses. Their focus is on looming hunger more than on the coronavirus. Whatever they earn in a day is used to buy the vegetable to be cooked that day, and if they don't earn anything they take a loan from the money lender or neighbors. Some of them earn \$1 or \$2 per day. Pakistan struggles with a weak health care infra-

structure and still sees avoidable deaths from polio, diarrhea, dengue fever and malaria. Managing the coronavirus crisis has been a huge challenge.

What is Loretto doing for our neighbors during this pandemic? We make masks for the poor in our area and distribute them free of cost. We provide clean water and grow and give out vegetables from our garden. It is a pity that some days we don't have enough veggies to harvest for all those in need.

At school, we write out homework for the kids, making copies, and asking them to study at home. We know this will not happen with 80 percent of our kids, since there is no one in the family who is literate and able to help them, but at this moment we need their good health. We are ready to work harder to help them when schools in Pakistan reopen. The rest we leave in God's hands.



Above: Teachers practice computer skills.

Photos: Nasreen Daniel SL

Mary Peter Bruce SL

March 14, 1932 — August 6, 2020

Mary Peter Bruce lived in Mexico her first 12 years. Later the family settled in Denver, where Mary Peter attended Holy Family High School, then joined Loretto. She was one of three Loretto sisters in the fall of 1960 who began Loretto's school in La Paz, Bolivia, where she was a beloved teacher. After studying adult evangelization, she worked with the Aymara indigenous people of the Altiplano. After returning to the States, she began working with immigrant women and their children in El Paso and later in Denver. From 2004 to 2008, Mary Peter served as Loretto's NGO at the U.N. She served again in various capacities in El Paso until 2015. A gifted linguist, a committed woman who knew no stranger, Mary Peter accomplished far more than this short remembrance allows.



Mary Frances Lottes SL

August 23, 1922 — July 31, 2020

Mary Frances Lottes grew up in St. Louis and attended Nerinx Hall High School, graduating in 1941. Mary Fran entered Loretto in 1946 and taught in various schools. In 1957 she was sent to study theology in Rome, since Catholic colleges in the U.S. would not admit women to theology programs. She taught theology in college for several years, also serving on Loretto's General Council with Mary Luke Tobin from 1964 to 1970. Mary Fran later taught and gave talks in liberation theology, liturgy, feminist theology and Christology in Louisville, Ky., Santa Fe, N.M., and Denver. Mary Fran's scholarly training and professional work fail to evoke the warmth and compassion that shone in her eyes, sounded in her soft voice and lit her face with an ever-present welcoming smile.



Norma Mason-Stikes CoL

November 8, 1930 — August 10, 2020

Norma Mason-Stikes was born in Louisville, Ky. She graduated from Central High School, the city's high school for Blacks, in 1949. She earned her nursing diploma from St. John/Holy Cross School of Nursing in Anderson, Ind., because Black people were barred from nursing schools in Kentucky. Norma had a long and distinguished career as a psychiatric nurse, educator, civil rights advocate and community organizer. She was the first Head Nurse at Our Lady of Peace Hospital who was Black. She was a member of Christ the King Parish in Louisville for more than 60 years. Norma became a Loretto co-member in 2007. She was preceded in death by her husband of 33 years, Jack Mason, and her husband of 27 years, William "Scully" Stikes. She is survived by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Dolores Kelledy

September 13, 1926 — August 30, 2020

In 1976 Dolores Kelledy wrote, "I became interested in the Sisters of Loretto while attending elementary school at Sacred Heart Parish. The Lorettoines there portrayed such a friendly spirit, both in the convent and in the school, that I choose to become one of them." For 23 years she taught in parochial schools. Then she and Sister Ann Johnson taught in the St. Louis Public Schools in traditionally Black neighborhoods for 24 years. Dolores had one goal: to create within the walls of her classroom an environment of quiet support and encouragement, where young children would find sure direction, experience success and know they were each valued. Later she volunteered in parochial schools and worked as a greeter at Kutis Funeral Home. She celebrated her 75th jubilee on April 25, 2020.



Unabridged remembrances are found on the Loretto website:
<https://www.lorettocommunity.org/category/obituaries/>

Memorials and Tributes of Honor

March 2020 — August 2020

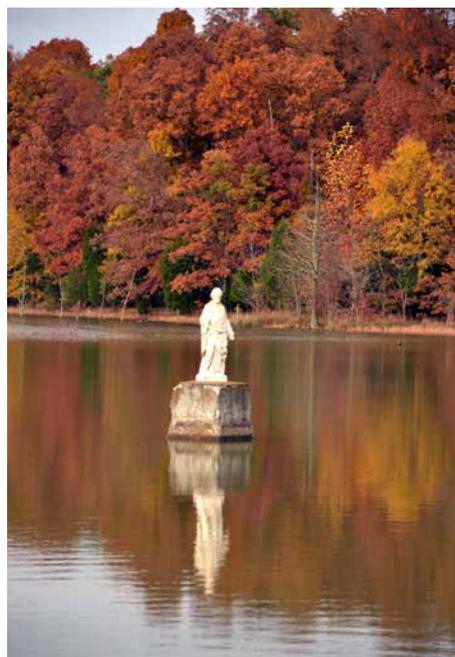
In Memory of:
Requested by:

*An asterisk (*) following a name identifies a Loretto Co-member.*

Sandra Ardoyno SL
William McAtee
Elinor Hennessy Bax
Mary Pat Hennessy Himmelberg
Martha Belke SL
Michael and Kathleen Dicken
Pat and Greg Thornton
Virginia Edelen Bennett
Sharon Henry
Marc Berry
Suzanne Berry
Rose Celeste Block SL
Sr. Lesley Block, OP
Renee Ladnier Boltz
Barbara Brooks Rancour
Mary Peter Bruce SL
Martha Alderson*
Leslee Moore*
Lillian* and John* Moskeland
Berry Thompson Brumfield
Bethlehem Academy,
Elizabethtown, KY, 1951
Barbara Clark Pawley
Mary Ellen Foster Burke
Joseph Burke
Dolores Galvan Canales
Jose G. Pena
Kay Carlew SL
Victoria and Steven Billimack
Ellen Castille
Carolyn Luckett Denning
Ann Mudd
Susan Kappler Little
Kathleen Rogers
Mary and Guy Silva
Frank, Jr and Janet Southall
Jane E. "Betty" Southall
Mary Catherine Widger SL
Cathy Yost
Maura Campbell SL
Dick and Dorothy Campbell

Angelus Caron SL
Rae Ann De Vargas*
Alma Chaparas
Sotiros Chaparas
Elizabeth Ann Compton SL
Ann Kammien*
Jerry Condran
Sue and Art Wessel
Lee Connolly SL
Susan Murray and Michael Tevlin
Mary Ann Coyle SL
Dick and Dorothy Campbell
Marilyn Cusick
Dorothy Cusick
DeCoursey Family
Maureen DeCoursey
Michael Mary Dea SL
Kathleen Quinn Dea

Rev. David Edwards
Bruce Middleton
Nancy Finneran SL
Clare Andert
Virginia Day
Mary Ellen Elder
Kathleen Finneran
Michael Finneran
Thomas Finneran
Suzanne Jordan
Jane Kusters*
Kelly Sonntag
Marie Agnes Fobes SL
Robert and Antoinette Swanson
Megan Kathleen Gallagher
Dennis Gallagher
Dustin Junior Garcia
Jimmy and Ruth Mireles
George Gates
Rose Marie Hayden
Julia Keegan OSF
Ron Gipson
Janet O'Halloran
Ann Frances Gleason SL
Carol Harris
Gondina Greenwell SL
Phyllis Ballard
Margaret and Gus Grieder
Ann Corrigan
Auntie Gwen
Leilani Chu
Mr. and Mrs. Chester Hagerman
Ann Hagerman Stahl
Marie Noel Hebert SL
James Hebert
Joseph Highland
Mary Highland
Myron Howlett
Norma Howlett
Patricia Hughes*
Anonymous



Fall at the Motherhouse in Kentucky

In Memory of:
Requested by:

Jean M. Ivancic

Ivancic Families

Maria Elena Israel

Ivy and David Arroyo Decker

John Bucy

Cecilia Burke

Maura Fernandez

Hector and Debbie Gutierrez

Donna Howard

Tracy King

Phillip Martin

Christina Morales

Evelina Ortega

Michelle Romero

Ramon Romero

Margaux Sarabia Lara

Lu and Mari Sparkman-Barraz

Chris Turner

Ernesto Valencia

Christy Willhite

Cecily Jones SL

Martha Alderson*

Lyndie Duff

Eileen Kelly SL

Robert Tiernan

Patricia Kelly

Loretto Heights College

Denise Bailer Skiba, LHC, 1961

Mary Evelyn O'Bryan Knoop

David Delnay

Mary Celeste Fowler

Kelly Gilligan

Dick and Ceil Iler

F.J. Knoop, Jr.

Ken and Jean Lewis

Marilyn Meredith

Lou and Jackie Phillips

Phyllis Russell

Stock Yards Bank,

Wealth Management

& Trust Employees

Barbara and Bert Trompeter

Rose Annette Liddell SL

Barbara Meinert

Loretto:

**The dedicated Sisters of Loretto
who taught me**

Gary Kress

Loretto:

Shanghai Sisters of Loretto

Leilani Chu

Loretto:

**Sisters who taught me
at Holy Family, Denver**

and Loretto Heights College

Margy and John Veatch

Mary Frances Lottes SL

Martha Alderson*

Elizabeth Lottes Barry

Marilyn Lottes Fuller

Arthur Lottes III

Katherine Lottes

Mary Lottes

Tony and Joellen McDonald

David & Sherry Nockels

Ann Manganaro SL

Mary Ann Phillips

Francene Lum SL

Monica Chew

Edwin Mary McBride SL

Barbara Gene Fitzpatrick

Michael and Sheila Sise

Patricia Jean Manion SL

Emilie Deady

Ann Shake

Jane Marie Osborn Mudd

Kathy Berry

Carver School of Social Work

Julie Kuebler

Galena Reiter-Thompson

Mary and David Runyon

Kathy Wynn

Marie Clyde Murphy SL

Mary Shimel

Frances Mary Myers SL

Susan Murray and Michael Tevlin

Murray-Deline Families

Adele and Bill Deline

Peggy Nelson

Margarita Covarrubias

Newton Families

Helen Teter

Bud and Alva Nicholas

Beatrice and Harold Combs

Carlene Laseter

Barbara Nicholas SL

Rose Margaret Noe

Mary Ann Carlisle

Kelly Crimi

John Crimmins

Joanna Goldstein

Russell Henle

Nora Horecny

Jane Hummel

Beverly, Meredith and Lizzy Jones

Robert & Andra Lubbers

Patricia Mattingly

Heather Moore

Sherrie Moore

Susan Reigler

Anne Marie Shinkle

Carl Weigel

Evelyn and Burch O'Bryan

Mary Evelyn Knoop

Maureen O'Connell SL

**Superior, Shanghai Loretto
School, 1950s**

Theresa Da Silva

**Mary Catherine "Micki" O'Connor
Loretto Heights College, 1961**

Denise Bailer Skiba

Mary Naomi O'Meara SL

Mary Cotter Jaros

*An asterisk (*) following a name identifies a Loretto Co-member.*

Nazaria Ochoa Pena

Jose G. Pena

Rosalie Marie Phillips SL

Michael Steverson

Marie Catherine Pohndorf SL

Mary Sue Anderson

Daniel Rabbitt

Barbara Light*

James Rauen

Janet Rauen

Marie Joann Rekart SL

Jerry Robinson

John L. Rekart

Marija Puc-Remec

Andrej Remec

Jane Marie Richardson SL

Jean King

Bob Riggs*

Marge*, Gretchen and Tom Riggs

Helen Leuer Roberts

Katherine Woodward

Ida Romero

Bernadette and Roger Seick

Charlotte Fabian McCabe Savignac

1951 Graduate Bethlehem

Academy, Elizabethtown, Ky.

Barbara Clark Pawley

Margaret Loyola Scanlon SL

Dennis Gallagher

Dorothy Scheopner SL

Ray and Nancy Scheopner

Mr. & Mrs. Paul M. Schmidt

Regina Schmidt

Marjorie Schmitz Sywak

Linda Beaven

Tom Shannon

Ann Mary Shannon Mehling

Anne Spillane*

Helen Hensgen

JoAnne Slater

Sally Smart

Sharon Smart

Martha Alderson*

Charles and Sharon Stevinson

Mark Stevinson

Harry and Helen Swain

Alan Miller

Mary Luke Tobin SL

Kay Mullen

Patricia Toner SL

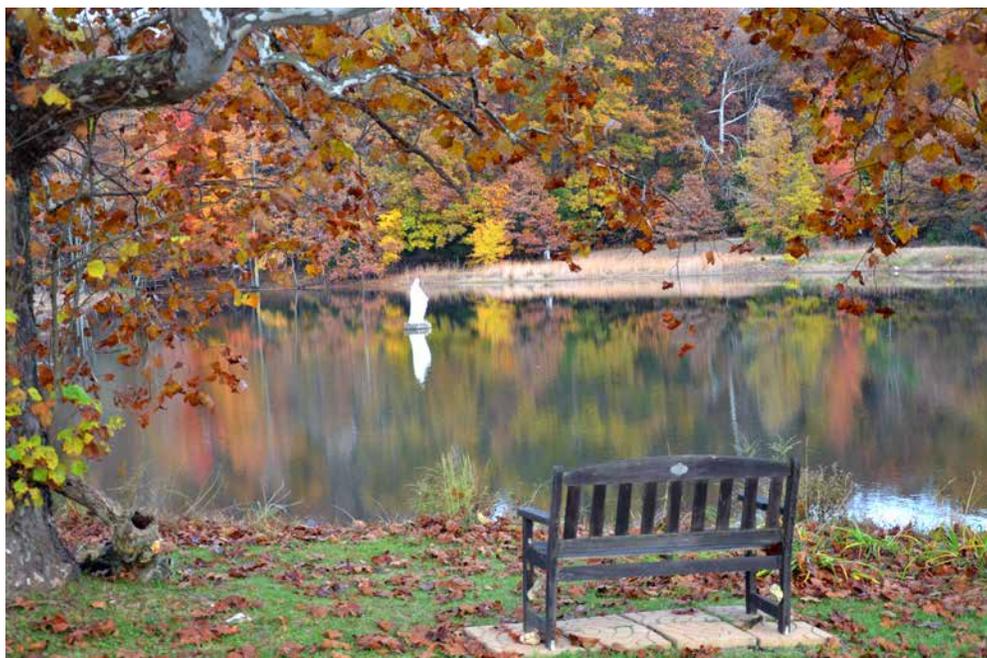
John Geraghty

Danny Toolen

Patti Toolen Kratschmer

Ann Patrick Ware SL

Gloria Robb Wells



Fall at the Motherhouse in Kentucky

In Honor of:
Requested by:

An asterisk (*) following a name identifies a Loretto Co-member.

Pauline Albin SL

Betty Lewis

Guadalupe Arciniega SL

Mary Joe Becker Zeillmann

Barbara Ann Barbato SL

Mary Helen Gautreaux

Bishop Toolen High

Mobile, Ala. class of 1960

Barbara Brooks Rancour

Beth Blissman*

Anne McKee

Rita Bruegenhagen SL

Martha Alderson*

Denise Ann Clifford SL

Karen and Joe Hugenberg

Rev. Joseph Spina OSF

Martha Creek

Kay Cook and Perry Pogany

LeAnn Detherage

David Schoeni

Jeanne Dueber SL

William and Joanne Fogarty

Barbara Doak SL

Lillian* and John Moskeland*

Vivian Doremus*

Helen Walsh*

Regina Drey SL

Katherine Wayne

Marie Ego SL

Prudence & Joseph Hopkins

David and Christine Wagner

Maureen Fiedler SL

Jennifer Morgan

Martha Fly*

David Schoeni

Jeannine Gramick SL

James and Rosemary Jepson

John M. Le Bedda

Terrence Mischel & Bradley Cameron

Jennifer Morgan

Joan O' Neill

Pastor Amy Nyman

Mary Katherine Hammett SL

**76th anniversary as a Sister
of Loretto**

Marilyn Montenegro

Mary Jo Highland

Mary A. Highland

Gabriel Mary Hoare SL

Maggie and Jim Ryan

Mary Joe Becker Zeillmann

Jean Johnson SL

Mary Joe Becker Zeillmann

Beatrice Klebba SL

Cliff & Lilly Bugdalski

Alexander Leard

Michael Leard*

Allison Lemons

Micah Lemons

Loretto:

**Sisters who taught at
St. Augustine School
Lebanon Ky. 1948-1952**

Frances Pauline Mattingly

Loretto:

Sisters who taught in Sterling, Ill.

Tom Sullivan

Loretto:

Webster College Class of 1963

Carol Hohenberger

Loretto:

**Motherhouse Infirmary
Caregivers**

Arthur Lottes, Jr. Family

Harriet Mays

Kathy Wallace

James Meyer

Mary A. Highland

Lillian Moskeland*

Martha Alderson*

Anndavid Naeger SL

Lyndie Duff

Barbara Nicholas SL

Beatrice and Harold Combs

Carlene Laseter

Valerie Novak SL

Martha Alderson*

Mary Ann Rogers

Gayle Rogers

Anthony Mary Sartorius SL

Leslee Moore*

Sylvia Sedillo SL

Mary Lou Trujillo

Marlene Spero SL

Margy and John Veatch

Marie Lourde Steckler SL

Mary Joe Becker Zeillmann

Mary Swain SL

Arthur Lottes, Jr. family

Alan Miller

David Schoeni



Photo: Roberta Hudlow SL

Imelda Therese Marquez SL at a recent Loretto Assembly

The back story

Dear Loretto Friends,

When people hear that I'm Development Director, charged with raising money for Loretto missions, many say, "Oh, that's a hard job. I could never ask for money."

Well, the truth is, because of your unwavering support, it's pretty easy work. I wrote one appeal letter last fall, and I've spent my first year on the job writing thank you notes. I am amazed and deeply touched by your incredible generosity. You saw in the last issue of *Loretto Magazine* the many works we carry out with your support – Loretto work at the U.N., on the border with Mexico, in Pakistan, in the Motherhouse Infirmary – and the works we support with you in Haiti, Ghana, Uganda, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico.

Fundraising wisdom says that people give to people. That's true. You give because you know Loretto – you know us, the members. You remember your education and want to give thanks. You read about our work with women, watch on YouTube our opposition to a gas pipeline, participate with us in local demonstrations for justice. Because we know you, we ask you for your help in these efforts. Because you know us, you give to Loretto.

Fundraising wisdom also says that good fundraising is good organizing. That's true, too. When Loretto invites you to give to our work in Pakistan, you learn a little bit more about the needs in Pakistan and why it's important to support the work there. When Loretto invites you to support our work on the border, some of you have responded by coming with us to the border to learn more, then going home more inspired to call for change.

Your gifts, your friendships, your love of your Loretto teachers, your shared labor with Loretto in so many places all bring you into Loretto life, sharing community, spirituality and mission. I write this in many thank you notes. Repetition does not make it less true. You are a part of the Loretto whole, and I and all of Loretto are so grateful that you are.

No, I don't have a hard job. My thanks to you are heartfelt.

Sister Mary Ann McGivern SL
Development Director



Photo: Stacy Fitzwater CoL

Stacy Fitzwater CoL traveled to Ghana with an iWilGo group (see iwilgo.org) with a twofold mission: to help install water catchment systems at the village school that would provide clean drinking water, and to conduct a training for teachers at the Kpaachiyili Primary School. Stacy works as an educator near Phoenix, Ariz., and has been a co-member since 2015.

