

Loretto

MAGAZINE

Spring / Summer 2023 Volume 64, No. 2

Inside ...

Ann Manganaro SL, M.D.: Her life and poetry  
Conserving land at the Motherhouse in Kentucky  
Responding to Earth's cry  
Helping Haiti  
... and more

## *Annual Report inside!*



**Ann Manganaro SL: Servant of God, physician,  
steadfast friend, gifted poet**

*And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.  
But the greatest of these is love.*

1 Corinthians 13:13

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### Front cover:

*Ann Manganaro SL cares for an infant in Guarjila, El Salvador. Ann, a pediatrician who arrived in El Salvador in 1988, during the civil war, provided medical care and training to the local people. She tended to those of all ages, including victims of war. She is remembered with deep fondness and respect by Salvadorans.*

*Photo: Mev Puelo*

### Back cover:

*Ann Manganaro SL and one of the children for whom she provided care in El Salvador.*

*Photo: Mev Puelo*



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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Photo: Donna Mattingly SL

*Dear Reader,*

Recently, I received a letter from a fifth grader at St. Mary's Academy in Englewood, Colo. I'll call her Bridget. "I love helping others, drawing and building things to help people," Bridget wrote. "I like being a Loretto Leader because I get to meet more of our community and I get to help others. I was wondering what you have done or do to show leadership. Also, what advice would you give me for being a better Loretto Leader?"

My first reaction was an amazed, Wow. I could never have thought to write such a letter when I was 10 going on 11. A second thought followed: Well, if Regina Drey SL had been my teacher and model of leadership, perhaps . . . "Regina serves in the role of director of Loretto projects at St. Mary's. There she brings to students, faculty and staff insights into Loretto values. Regina lives and demonstrates these values in all her interactions, including inviting fourth and fifth graders, who serve as Loretto Leaders, to write letters to our Community members seeking their perspectives on leadership. Loretto Leaders is a program Regina directs that recognizes students who demonstrate Loretto values of faith, community, justice and respect.

When I wrote to Bridget, I described some occasions when, as an oncology nurse, I had the responsibility for patients who were dealing with many aspects of a cancer diagnosis and the rigors of treatment. Sometimes they posed questions that invited me to respond with clarity and information. Sometimes the only response was to linger, together holding the imponderable question. Sometimes I recognized that a call to the oncologist held the best hope of bringing some satisfaction and relief to the patient. Knowing what to say, when to be quiet and when to seek counsel — these are moments when it seems to me that qualities of leadership helped me. My advice to the student was, "Don't ever be afraid to ask for help."

It might be fun to act like a fifth grader and write a letter to someone asking them to share their thoughts on leadership. What are some of the qualities of leadership that you value in yourself?

In the meantime, I'm confident that you will enjoy meeting Loretto people whose stories are presented in this issue. Perhaps unintentionally, each has revealed the qualities of leadership that Bridget seeks to understand. Let's continue to bless each other with gratitude and appreciation for lives well lived.

Sincerely,

Barbara Nicholas SL  
President of Loretto



"Spring," serigraph, by Gabriel Mary Hoare SL, 1982

# The award-winning Infirmary is now Loretto Living Center at Loretto Motherhouse



From left, Dorothy Ortner CoL, Nancy Wittwer SL and Valerie Novak SL enjoy the courtyard outside of the Motherhouse Infirmary, now the Loretto Living Center at Loretto Motherhouse, in Nerinx, Ky. Photo courtesy of Michelle Essex

The Loretto Infirmary, now called Loretto Living Center at Loretto Motherhouse, continues the award-winning standard of providing holistic care that promotes comfort, security and dignity in a homelike environment.

The Living Center is a nonprofit, licensed healthcare organization responsible for operating the long-term care facility. This includes staffing for nursing, food service, environmental services, pastoral care, social activities and administration, as well as arrangements for additional services, including various therapies and diagnostic services.

Expect the same exceptional level of care and service provided by the Infirmary.



## Loretto launches new Justice Fellowship program

By Annie Rosenkranz, director of the Loretto Justice Fellowship

Loretto's leadership has approved the Loretto Justice Fellowship as the successor to the Loretto Volunteer Program. The Loretto Justice Fellowship begins its pilot year in El Paso in 2023 in partnership with the School of Social Work at the University of Texas-El Paso (UTEP), the Law School Preparation Institute at UTEP and local social justice organizations. The program will provide students with paid social justice internships, intentional community programming and holistic support for their personal and professional journeys in justice.

The Loretto Justice Fellowship program carries forward much of what was transformative about the Volunteer Program — connection in community; deep learning from and meaningful participation in social justice work experiences; and mutual exchange and reciprocity between emerging social justice leaders and the Loretto Community around key mission work priorities. Our new model focuses these transformative efforts within communities: investing in, partnering with and empowering pre-professionals in local communities on their justice journeys in partnership with local institutions and organizations.

Please check out the Loretto Justice Fellowship on the web: <https://www.lorettocommunity.org/get-involved/loretto-justice-fellowship>



Annie Rosenkranz is excited about the new program as it develops under her direction.

Photo courtesy of Annie Rosenkranz

# The Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund brings healing to Earth

Jessie Rathburn, Loretto's earth education and advocacy coordinator, introduces the Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund in our newest Spotlight video. The fund was started in 2019 in honor of Anthony Mary Sartorius SL who planted numerous trees at the Loretto Motherhouse in Kentucky. The fund has helped support many projects, including a solar installation in Virginia, Indigenous tree-planting in Guatemala and gardens in a low-income neighborhood in Cleveland. Just last year, grants were made to groups in Guatemala, Haiti, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and the U.S.

Watch the short video of Jessie talking about the fund on our Spotlight Video page: [www.lorettocommunity.org/spotlight](http://www.lorettocommunity.org/spotlight).

See [page 14](#) to read about a few of the projects Loretto's Carbon Reduction Fund has helped support.

Visit the Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund's page on the Loretto website: <https://www.lorettocommunity.org/how-we-serve/environment/carbon-offset-fund/>.



Jessie Rathburn CoL shares her enthusiasm about the Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund. The fund is helping individuals and organizations respond to the cry of the Earth by taking concrete steps. Photo by Jullia Gerwe

*The healing of Earth is directly tied to the healing of our bodies, our selves.*

Jessie Rathburn CoL



**See our most recent Loretto Spotlight video:**  
[www.lorettocommunity.org/spotlight](http://www.lorettocommunity.org/spotlight)

Vector World Maps

# Ann Manganaro SL: Physician



**I will set my hands to heal  
The scorched earth; the burned and broken I will tend  
Till this land shall learn some new true fire to build.**

**Ann Manganaro SL, physician, poet, servant  
of God, from her poem "January 1990"**

*Ann Manganaro SL, M.D., tends to a young patient in Guarjila, El Salvador, where she provided medical care to the local community and trained healthcare workers during the country's civil war. Photo by Mev Puleo*

Ann Manganaro SL, M.D., arrived in El Salvador in 1988, living alongside the locals in a stone and mud home, providing medical care and training in the village of Guarjila and surrounding areas. She died in 1993 at age 46. A memorial stone in the chapel garden at the clinic she established expresses the community's feelings, "Thank you for your solidarity. You will always live in our hearts." In five years, Hermana Ana (Sister Ana), as she was known, created a living legacy in El Salvador that produces bountiful fruit to this day. Inspired by her example, an Ann Manganaro clinic and educational center for the Indigenous community is planned for Cobán, Guatemala.

*By Kathleen DeSutter Jordan*

**W**hen I visited my friend Ann Manganaro SL in El Salvador in 1990 in honor of her 25th anniversary as a Sister of Loretto, we spent a morning at St. Francis Church in the capital, San Salvador. Etched on the sanctuary floor, and on my heart ever since, were two Gospel-centered questions:

*What does it mean to be light for the world?  
What does it mean to be salt for the earth?*

Ann would prove to be both.

Shortly after finishing high school at Nerinx Hall in St. Louis, Ann had entered the Sisters of Loretto. Dedicated to the founding charism of Loretto, she was committed



‘ I will try to live poorly, precariously, placing the kingdom always first, cherishing and using of the earth's goods only what I need to sustain life simply. I will place first in my life the call to love God and to love and serve all my sisters and brothers, especially the poor and the needy. I trust that the gracious God who nourishes and sustains me in this moment will continue to touch my life, in the easy times and the hard, with grace and tenderness and mercy.’

Ann Manganaro SL, upon taking final vows  
as a Sister of Loretto on Dec. 28, 1976

to teaching and to community. Initially she taught at an inner-city parochial school, then at a city experimental school; in 1972 she founded and taught at the Neighborhood School in St. Louis. Ann experienced this work as very meaningful but felt drawn to living her vow of poverty more clearly and to working with the very poor in an underserved country. Having spent the summer of 1969 as a volunteer at the New York City Catholic Worker, she was profoundly influenced by the Worker’s model of Gospel living — the primacy of the spiritual; the daily practice of the works of mercy; a commitment to social justice and nonviolence; living poorly with the poor — and experienced it as “a real source of revelation and nurturance.”

With the support of the Loretto Community, in the fall of 1977 Ann decided to study medicine. At the same time, she was one of the founding members of Karen House, a new Catholic Worker community for women and children in St. Louis. Having completed a residency in pediatrics, and attending to personal health issues, in January 1988, Ann arrived in El Salvador to volunteer with the Jesuit Refugee Service in the midst of a ravaging civil war. She hoped to be “one countervailing force against the real evil and damage that has occurred as a result of U.S. foreign policy.” In Guarjila, a newly-settled village in the province of Chalatenango for refugees returning from Honduras, Ann lived and worked for the next five years, until her death from metastatic breast cancer on June 6, 1993.

In Guarjila, Ann’s work as a physician and a teacher reflected a fortuitous synthesis of her training and talents. Amid constant threats and the dangers of warfare — bombs, disappearances, death-squad slayings, air raids — she started a medical clinic (named Ana Manganaro Clinic after her death) that provided everyday and acute medical care. Her primary work in these years, however, was the on-going training of the village’s highly-motivated health-care promoters (medical assistants). Focused on maternal and infant care, as well as reducing morbidity and mortal-

ity, their work was shared with international volunteers, including an American nurse, Susan Classen, who later became a Loretto co-member.

Now, 30 years after Ann’s death, socioeconomic changes have taken place in Guarjila, including improvements in housing, education, health services, roads and communications. While over the years these advances have been supported by intermittent government assistance, they are primarily the result of the ongoing ingenuity, resilience and hard work of the community. The Ana Manganaro Clinic is now able to offer a full range of medical and preventive services, from pediatrics and ob-gyn care to a clinical lab and pharmacy. Its staff includes a team of 44 health promoters and serves the eight municipalities of northeastern Chalatenango. Every year in Guarjila, the health team and



*In 1972 Ann founded and taught at the Neighborhood School in St. Louis. Five years later she would begin her medical studies. Photo courtesy of Loretto Archives*

‘... there was a beautiful sunset and stars in the sky, and I was walking home after dinner to where I live alone. No more had I gotten in and settled down for the evening when combat broke out all around me. ... I could hear the combat go from one side of the house to the other; I could hear the soldiers shouting in the street. ... Then they started strafing with tracer bullets, which you see as little red lights crossing the sky.’

Ann Manganaro describes a battle between the guerilla army, Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, and the Salvadoran military

community celebrate a Mass in honor of “Hermana Ana,” and several years ago a memorial stone was placed in the clinic’s central garden.

Ann cherished the original name of the Sisters of Loretto, “The Little Society of the Friends of Mary under the Cross” (later shortened to Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross). She found strength and purpose in how closely her day-to-day life in El Salvador mirrored that image. Many of the poems written in her Salvadoran years reflect the profound suffering and anguish her neighbors lived with, as well as her own. Prayer, reading and writing helped Ann balance periods of discouragement and loneliness, as did the abiding care and example of the people of Guarjila and the unreserved support of the Loretto Community. Ann was particularly grateful for the time Martha Crawley CoL shared with her in El Salvador.

“Love is stronger than death”; the biblical exhortation from the “Song of Songs” became a sort of mantra for Salvadorans following the brutal slaughter of six Jesuits and a mother and daughter at the Central American University in San Salvador in November 1989. When a new clinic

was named to honor these martyrs two years later in Guarjila, Ann wrote, “New hope does indeed spring forth here. ... That image of hope which rises like light in the midst of darkness and death seems to capture the core of my life and experience here.”

Light and salt, indeed.

*Author's note: I am grateful to Dr. Dagoberto Menjivar and Gene Palumbo for current information about Guarjila.*



Kathleen DeSutter Jordan, pictured here with Ann Manganaro SL, met Ann when they were students at Nerinx Hall High School in St. Louis. They shared a love for Loretto and the Catholic Worker and maintained lifelong visits and correspondence.

Photo courtesy of Kathleen DeSutter Jordan



Clinica Ana Manganaro in Guarjila, El Salvador, as it looks today. The clinic provides medical services to eight municipalities. The healthcare program that Ann spearheaded later became part of the methodology in El Salvador’s national healthcare system. Today, however, the clinic struggles to purchase needed medicine and supplies.

Photo by Dagoberto Menjivar M.D., Guarjila, El Salvador

‘That image of hope which rises like light in the midst of darkness and death seems to capture the core of my life and experience here.’

Ann Manganaro, diary entry



hard to imagine all this light  
 ad, all this burning brightness  
 begins with a flame kindled before  
 ag, wavering, thin as a reedy fl  
 grows like the sun, like the land  
 re, seething with light, the s  
 nd wide, pure burning yearni  
 ne in face and limb and voi  
 e all eyes, whose fiery eloqu  
 e a hammer our hearts. No  
 tides could sweep this glowin  
 will spring up, sparks in the  
 bodies and bends minds. Across the d  
 horizon rise with evil this searing glow  
 will grow, will spread: roots of fire, shoots  
 of light, leaves like tongues of flame, stark  
 Blossoms of burning truth: will still and always thro  
 Out rays that rise beyond the deepest of all nights.



Above and below, Ann Manganaro SL shares conversation with villagers. Her great love inspired love in return.  
 Photos by Mev Puleo

Two of Ann Manganaro SL's handwritten poems on notebook paper are in the background.

25 May 1989 - Also for Peter

what wind is this that comes upon you  
 what swift uprising of life's most liveli  
 whose searing wings catch you up, fling  
 you doft, to speed you along this whirl  
 which you must go? And how will you  
 Being so suddenly borne away, while  
 you never knew you needed drops dow  
 The deep chasm of the past that you  
 over in your flight? Where will you  
 yourself, windswept, weathered, strip  
 to the bones of flame that from  
 chance, the wholeness of your soul's  
 you ride guides your ways, your d  
 already so clearly carried, may you s



"Set My Hands to Heal," a beautiful video by friends of Ann Manganaro, is available to watch: <https://vimeo.com/225019710>. To view it, you'll need the password: IFCLA-35yrs

To help the Ann Manganaro Clinic buy medicine and other essentials, send a check with "Ann Manganaro" in the memo line to the Sisters of Loretto Finance Office, 515 Nerinx Rd., Nerinx, KY 40049 or [click here](#) and select "Other ministries." Put "Ann Manganaro" in the comments box.

# Ann Manganaro SL: Poet

The out-shining, out-reaching sea-  
Strange mystery of life at last  
Bursting forth in us.

Excerpt from "March 1981"



Photo by Mev Puelo

Ann Manganaro SL wrote, "I sing of the light behind the sky" (1/1/1981). In her poetry, she sings, laments, shares life's beauty and struggles. Her bold imagination and keen sense of rhythm and sound captivate the reader ("The foam raced over the shore to slide away / Leaving the sand a slick slate mirror"). Though light is a recurring motif, Ann never fears to reach into the dark corners of the human condition, especially in the later poems written in war-torn El Salvador where she arrived in 1988 to live and work. Her reference in an early poem to "my own determined tenderness" is a thread that runs through her life and poetry. Readers will appreciate Ann's intelligence, passion and clear sightedness. Her spirituality is deeply lived. In September 1992 she wrote in her journal, "... the writing for me is like a prayer." In her poetry God is often encountered, addressed or questioned ("I came here gasping for God as if for air. / And came to the right place it seems, for God / Hangs in the very air like incense here"). Reading these poems, you will likely find yourself smiling, weeping, whispering amen. They are as alive now as when they were written.

*Christina Manweller, Loretto Magazine editor*

I came here gasping for God as if for air.  
 And came to the right place it seems, for God  
 Hangs in the very air like incense here,  
 Lifting up in layers like the mist threaded  
 Through the hills of a morning, sifting down  
 Among the insect sounds to settle the night in,  
 Stirring the day-break's breezes, or grown  
 Enormous in the gathering torrential rain,  
 Falling with the slow precise drops that roll  
 From leaf to grass in the storm's aftermath.  
 Not that any of these are God. No.  
 But that within the interstices of my soul  
 Breathes in what tastes like life's heart and with  
 And for whom I choose to let God be so.

La Palma, 14 September 1992

Please, give me a living love again or let  
 Me go. I cannot keep on scraping dead flakes  
 Of kindness off old bones, a voice that speaks  
 Its blessings in a death rattle whisper. Get  
 Me a red heart instead, pounding, pulsing,  
 Real blood rushing through real flesh to reach  
 Outstretching warm arms, to enfold: touch  
 That breathes, sparks that fly, that from fingers spring  
 To the soul's center. Let me cry out clear,  
 Through bright morning air swing sound out ring  
 A space-filling swell of praise, let me sing  
 A pure-pitched truth that transmutes despair  
 Leave all else, but bring me thus: love  
 Throbbing through me, through me love alive.

Anniversary Prayer, 15 September 1992  
 (Sept. 15 was the 28th anniversary of Ann's  
 entering the Loretto postulancy in 1964)

Flying low, you float  
 Across a landscape of fallen stars  
 The city's jewels, strung, stretched  
 Flung before you. Those stars  
 Like fallen angels lie in wait  
 To betray their own beauty,  
 Quenched up close in the grim grime  
 Of the city. In the frozen faces  
 Which throng each pearl-strewn street.  
 If you hovered endlessly  
 Would the city, like its light, rise?

February 28, 1977

## Order the book!



"Give Me a Living Love: The Poems of Ann  
 Manganaro SL" may be purchased at  
[https://www.lorettocommunity.org/about/artists-  
 authors/books](https://www.lorettocommunity.org/about/artists-authors/books)

Or send a check (memo line: Ann Manganaro)  
 payable to Sisters of Loretto to:  
 Loretto Books c/o A. Mattingly, 515 Nerinx Rd.,  
 Nerinx, KY 40049

\$10, includes shipping and handling.

*ch toll takes more now and taunts less.  
 d lightened I arrive at a season of gladder goodbyes.  
 f enduring only (at times troublesome)  
 trembling prelude, the soft aura of doom  
 stely down-played to a stageless whisper of eyes.  
 ver direction you turn I bid you welcome:  
 toward I will love beyond your presence  
 find my way to you in due time,  
 to your aid unbidden some hundred-fold here  
 thing's gift to me, your grace, having ar  
 in its homecoming to becom*



# Loretto protects generous swath of land at the Motherhouse in Kentucky

'The Loretto Community has long been committed to caring for Earth.'

Barbara Nicholas SL, president of the Loretto Community

The Loretto Community has entered into an agreement with Bluegrass Land Conservancy to conserve more than 650 acres of land at the Motherhouse in Nerinx, Ky. The conservancy will steward the land, ensuring that it remains protected. This is a step that has been in the making for decades.

Barbara Nicholas SL, president of Loretto, signed the agreement on Jan. 18. She said, "Pope Francis reminds us in *Laudato Si'* that we as humans are not separate from nature but are part of nature. Our commitment to peace and justice not only extends to Earth but is rooted in our understanding that we are of Earth. It is our responsibility to protect our sacred Motherhouse lands ...."

For more than four decades, the Loretto Community has been implementing conservation practices on the property. Completing the conservation easement has been a long-term objective and complements the three goals that have guided the conservation work: to protect undisturbed spaces, to regenerate degraded spaces and to mitigate and reduce carbon emissions. Important factors in the sisters' decision to create this significant conservation easement included maintaining the Motherhouse Farm's open and scenic beauty and agricultural uses; protecting the property from new residential and commercial structures that would substantially interfere with its woodlands, watersheds, streams, farmland and its scenic, open rural character; and protecting the congregation's working farmland in perpetuity.

Loretto Community's Earth Education and Advocacy Coordinator, Jessie Rathburn CoL, said, "Across the country, farmland is being lost to development at an alarming rate. Biodiversity is decreasing, waterways are being contaminated and wildlife corridors are being broken up. The

Loretto Community not only values ecological health and regeneration, but understands that we have a role to play in bringing about healing to this larger system. Protecting our Motherhouse farmland not only ensures an agricultural future for these lands, but contributes to healthy soils, forests and watersheds; it also provides habitat for many species. Establishing a conservation easement on our property is one more tangible step the Loretto Community is taking toward land justice: ensuring that the many other species who know this land as home — the trees, grasses, birds, wildlife, fish, salamanders, turtles and more — will be protected and nurtured by this land in perpetuity."

"Bluegrass Land Conservancy is so grateful to work with this incredible group of sisters to conserve this important, historic land area known as Loretto Motherhouse Farm," said Ashley Greathouse, the conservancy's director of conservation. "The Loretto Community has paved the way for religious groups in Kentucky, and perhaps nationwide, to protect these significant agricultural and religious resources. We have learned so much about the sisters' culture of conservation and sustainability during this process and we look forward to a long relationship with the sisters as we steward the Loretto Motherhouse Farm in perpetuity."

Bluegrass Land Conservancy works to protect lands critical to agricultural viability and community character in the bluegrass region through conservation easements. The easements are voluntary legal agreements between a landowner and the conservancy individually tailored to the landowner's objectives and property to conserve the land for agricultural and other open-space activities. This helps ensure that the state's unique bluegrass landscape, soils and water resources are protected for future generations.

*Facing page, the Motherhouse Farm abounds with nature's glory. At top: the farm at dusk. Photo by Christina Manweller  
Bottom: Beggarticks (Bidens frondosa) lift their faces to the sun. Photo by Susan Classen CoL*



*... the world is God's loving gift.*

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* #220



# Responding to Earth's cry

The Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund helps to re-green, decrease harm to Earth



Supporters of the Shenandoah Valley Black Heritage Center (SVBHP) gather to celebrate the installation of solar panels funded in part by the Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund. The mission of SVBHP is to learn, share and illuminate the rich Black history and culture of Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. The center provides internet access, help with ancestry research, a library with books specific to the center's mission and a safe space to build bridges with neighbors. Photo by Jeff Heie

*If you get a cut or wound on your body, are you not going to care for it? Mother Earth has some wounds, too ... that's why we will care for her by planting trees.*

**Norma Bajan, program director, Young Pioneers of Quetzal Fund**

As Loretto responds to Earth's cry, we look at how to increase our impact. Providing grants to others who are responding is one way we do so, and this often gives us the opportunity to stand in solidarity with those most affected by climate change.

In 2022, the Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund awarded grants to 16 projects. Planting trees in Haiti, building apiaries in Cleveland and installing solar panels in California — these are a few of the creative solutions funded. The fund invests in projects that bring about immediate improvement and effect wherever possible.

Established in 2019 to honor Anthony Mary Sartorius SL for her decades of planting trees at the Loretto Motherhouse in Kentucky, the fund provides grants for projects that sequester carbon, prevent carbon emissions or provide education about reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Grants are available to organizations and individuals within Loretto or connected to Loretto.

The Young Pioneers of Quetzal Fund in Guatemala is a group of indigenous women who have been schooled at Maia Impacto, started by Connie Ning CoL and her husband Ted Ning. These empowered young women are pioneers in their Mayan families, often the first to complete high school and enter college.

Each girl commits to community service, a long tradition in Mayan communities. Additionally, they receive extensive training in ecology and what they call “caring for Mother Earth,” especially trees. Program director Norma Bajan tells them, “If you get a cut or wound on your body, are you not going to care for it? Mother Earth has some wounds, too (where we cut down so many trees for our cooking fires); that's why we will care for her by planting trees.”

In August 2022 the Young Pioneers planted 200 tree species with the aim of maintaining the flora and fauna system. The trees were planted in different areas, includ-

ing San Andrés in the Chutinaí village, identified because of forest destruction. Each Young Pioneer planted trees in her community.

In addition to planting trees, the Young Pioneers of Quetzal Fund provides education on the importance of protecting the environment and enhances young people's connections with nature.

Watch a short video about the Quetzal Fund:

<https://bit.ly/41lyHD1>



Springhouse school staff member Sarah Merfeld partnered with Jarrah, a 15-year-old student, to plant trees on the school's campus to offset the school's carbon usage. The school, located in Floyd, Va., estimated that, on average, one tree will sequester one ton of carbon in 40 years, so they needed to plant 108 trees.

Sarah writes, "Often when you buy carbon credits to become carbon neutral, they fund a reforestation effort somewhere else. So why not just do it ourselves in our own place? Planting trees has other ecological benefits as well. Clear-cut logging is an environmental problem in our



Tree-planting day at Springhouse in Floyd, Va., proved an educational experience for all ages. In addition to Springhouse, two area elementary schools participated in the effort. Loretto's grant helped purchase 75 native saplings and materials for planting. Photo courtesy of Springhouse

Ready to plant! Above and top right, Guatemalan women prepare to plant trees purchased with a grant from the Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund. Photos courtesy of Connie Newton CoL

region. This practice leads to loss of biodiversity, destruction of wildlife habitat, soil erosion and more. So planting trees is a win-win!”

A Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund grant allowed the school to purchase 75 native saplings and materials. Two local elementary schools joined in on tree-planting day. The event became a rich learning opportunity as Jarrah explained the project to the younger students. The 15-year-old told the elementary school students who helped plant the trees, “Planting trees is a great way to practice thinking beyond yourself. Trees take a long time to grow and so we likely won’t enjoy them. Climate change will be a multigenerational issue, and we need to do what we can now and trust others will follow in our footsteps.”

Loretto hopes other schools will follow in Springhouse’s footsteps, teaching students about eco-responsibility. Planting trees is an action that helps Earth and serves life.



Above and left, students are eager to plant and help Earth regenerate. Photos courtesy of Springhouse



*Planting trees is a great way to practice thinking beyond yourself. Trees take a long time to grow and so we likely won’t enjoy them.*

*Climate change will be a multigenerational issue, and we need to do what we can now and trust others will follow in our footsteps.*

Jarrah, student at Springhouse, a school in Floyd, Va.

Trees produce oxygen, purify our air, form fertile soils, regenerate soil nutrients, prevent erosion, help keep rivers clean, capture water for aquifers, serve as refuges for fauna, lower soil temperature, favor the establishment of other species and provide food and shelter for birds.



Vel's Purple Oasis Vegetable Garden and Community Teaching Kitchen is a community-based urban farm on an acre of land where Cleveland's Fairfax neighborhood meets University Circle. Gardening began at the Oasis in April 2008 as a way to get members of the surrounding community involved with one another and to promote a healthy lifestyle through growing and eating high-quality produce. You can learn more about their work here: <https://www.velscott.com/>

Throughout the years, Oasis developed partnerships and served as an experimental site for growing vegetables and flowers. Funding from the Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund was used to purchase peach trees, blackberry canes, fig trees, appropriate soil amendments and mulch. This project both sequestered carbon and provided food to low-income residents of Cleveland, a positive result for Earth and community.



An abundant tomato crop helps local residents in Cleveland's Fairfax and University Circle neighborhoods eat well. The Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund helped Vel's Purple Oasis purchase additional fruit trees and blackberry canes for the garden. Below left, a healthy apple tree bears delicious fruit at the Oasis. Photos courtesy of Vel's Purple Oasis



### Grants of up to \$1,000 are available for projects that will:

- Sequester or prevent greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Provide education on carbon emissions or GHG reduction and prevention
- Secure infrastructure, equipment and support needed for the health of plantings (e.g., irrigation, fencing, tools.)

All donations go directly to grantees — organizations or individuals with a connection to Loretto.

To donate visit this link and choose Carbon Reduction Fund from the drop-down menu: <https://www.lorettocommunity.org/donate>

# Help for Haiti



By Kathy Wright SL

I made my first trip to Haiti with Fonkoze USA in 2002. Loretto had been involved with Fonkoze through loans to its loan fund. Haitians' faith, hope and perseverance under very dismal conditions were inspirational and challenging.

Reading about Haiti and being there were very different experiences. At the time the country had a population of about 8.7 million, and many poor Haitians were leaving the countryside in search of work in the capital, Port-au-Prince, and other urban areas. Unemployment was very high and government assistance was nonexistent. Many people lived in slums in the cities. Fonkoze, a microfinance organization, was working to provide individuals with small loans to set up microbusinesses and create income-producing opportunities. Their efforts represented a concerted effort to walk with and work with people, to move them out of poverty and create new educational and health opportunities for their children.

In August 2002 I moved to Haiti to work with Fonkoze and with a small organization that provided a neighborhood clinic, a school program, lodging for visiting church and service groups and hospitality for poor Haitians who were in Port-au-Prince for ongoing medical treatment.

Twenty years later, the need is still great, and several organizations are doing all they can to ramp up operations

and serve as many people as possible. The last two decades have seen devastation from two large earthquakes, multiple hurricanes and political upheaval.

For the last three years I have been part of a group that provides an annual retreat experience to a group of organizations serving the poor in cities and rural areas throughout Haiti. In 2020 and 2021 the retreats were held online because of the coronavirus. It is a humbling experience to share spirituality and reflection with people who are so committed to assisting those who are poor in Haiti under some of the most challenging circumstances.

[Sèvis Finansye Fonkoze](#) (Fonkoze), the microfinance bank founded in Haiti in 2004, lists Loretto as an original investor and has grown to become a major financial institution in Haiti. Currently Fonkoze has \$58,000,000 in assets, 45 branches across the country and 58,000 solidarity borrowers who now have the opportunity for individual enterprises. It was the first bank back in operation after the 2021 earthquake.

Fonkoze serves thousands through programs that provide health services, adult education and literacy, as well as an 18-month program to accompany people out of poverty.

[The Sisters of St. Antoine](#), an indigenous religious community founded in 1996 by two Haitian sisters in rural Haiti,

has grown its mission activities to include an orphanage, two clinics, parish ministry, preschool, elementary and secondary schools, a restaurant and hospitality services for visitors.

The [Association of Peasants of Fondwa](#), started in 1988, is now working throughout the country as an NGO to establish local development committees in all 572 rural communities in order to rebuild Haiti from the ground up. The group's aim is to transform rural Haiti by empowering one community at a time and to create jobs and business opportunities for everyone in each rural community. Currently the organization has 30 programs in rural communities.

[The University of Fondwa \(UNIF\)](#), founded in 2004 as a gift to the country during its bicentennial, is committed to creating new generations of Haitian citizens who will lead sustainable and integrated development of their country with a sense of citizenship. UNIF offers degree programs in agronomy, business management and veterinary services. Students come from rural areas across the country; it is hoped they will return to their towns and villages to provide much-needed services.

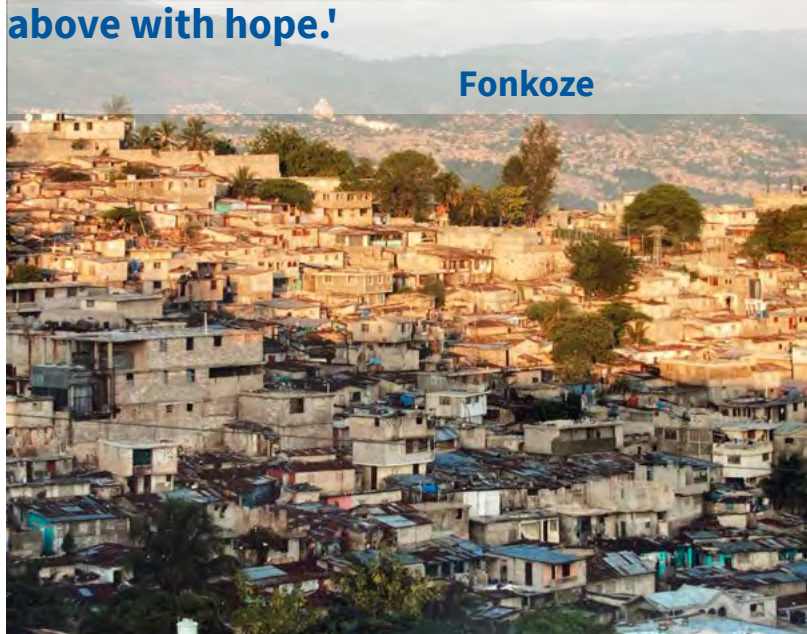
These organizations and their dedicated staff have overcome security, safety and transportation issues, earthquake and hurricane damage and a complete lack of nationwide infrastructure to continue to serve the people of Haiti in urban and rural areas. I am thrilled to be of some support in my small ways and so glad that Loretto invested in Haiti from the start of these programs. It is work like this that will expand the opportunities for Haitians in spite of the multitude of barriers.

Last year I came across this quote: "We have endured an unimaginable amount of loss due to hurricanes, earthquakes, unrest, floods, poverty and corruption. AND STILL WE RISE above with hope" (Fonkoze). That is the reality I experience whenever I work with Haitians who are trying to strengthen the country and move impoverished Haitians to economic self-sufficiency. Check out these organizations online to learn more about their ministries.



**'We have endured an unimaginable amount of loss due to hurricanes, earthquakes, unrest, floods, poverty and corruption. AND STILL WE RISE above with hope.'**

**Fonkoze**



*Facing page, Haiti's Port-au-Prince marketplace teems with buyers and sellers. Photo by Kathy Wright SL*

*Top right, a typical Haitian home is a modest shelter. Photo by Kathy Wright SL*

*Above right, the neighborhood in Port-Au-Prince where Kathy Wright SL lived is crowded with simple structures. Photo by Kathy Wright SL*

*Below, left to right, Sister Carmella, Sharon Kassing SL, Kathy Wright SL and Sister Simone; Carmella and Simone founded the Sisters of St. Antoine, an indigenous Haitian religious community.*

*Photo courtesy of Kathy Wright SL*



# 'Ti pa, ti pa na rive!' Little by little, we will continue! Resourceful Haitians put one foot in front of the other



*Little Sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus pose with Barbara Wander CoL (at center, seated on the floor). The banner, made for the Little Sisters by Bob Strobbridge CoL, reads "Ti pa, ti pa na rive!" Little by little we will continue. Photo courtesy of Barbara Wander CoL*

'The Little Sisters have 42 missions across Haiti that include schools, clinics, hospitals, orphanages, centers for the elderly, agriculture centers and professional centers.'

Barbara Wander CoL

By Christina Manweller with Barbara Wander CoL

When Barbara Wander CoL retired from 30 years of public school teaching in 2000, she decided to visit the countries from which her students had emigrated, starting with Haiti. It soon became clear she wouldn't make it to the other countries. The Haitians had captured her heart. Ever since, she has helped in whatever ways she could.

Barbara's assistance helps provide scholarships for elementary, secondary and university students and helps the Little Sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus in their work. The Little Sisters have 42 missions across Haiti that include schools, clinics, hospitals, orphanages, centers for the elderly, agriculture centers and professional centers. Barbara says, "If we help the sisters keep going, we support all this work."

In the midst of the country's present unsettled condition, Barbara is undaunted in her determination to help. "We don't quit," she says, "we keep going. I'm trying to do whatever I can to keep going."

Haitians are very resourceful. "It's interesting," Barbara says, "here's this country with all these problems, and the people just get stronger and smarter. If they have 20 *goud*\* ... they are going to do the most they can do with that money."

The country's formidable problems are complex, exacerbated by foreign entities, power-seeking individuals and a shattered political system. In the face of it, Barbara says, "Haitians are still trying to educate their kids and heal as many people as they can." It seems the Haitians are always being asked to do their best in the most difficult of circumstances.

To donate to this work, please visit our [donate page](#) and select "Other Ministries" from the drop down menu. On the next page, type in "Haiti." Or mail your donation in the envelope provided.

\* The *goud* is the Haitian national currency.





'The creativity, intelligence and work ethic never stop.'

Barbara Wander CoL



Facing page, at bottom, schoolchildren wash up using a basin and cup.  
This page, clockwise from top left, a plastic bottle becomes a soccer ball in a playground game.  
Scraps of cloth become a sail.  
A plastic bottle and four bottle caps become a truck.  
An old tire becomes a garden.

Photos courtesy of Barbara Wander CoL

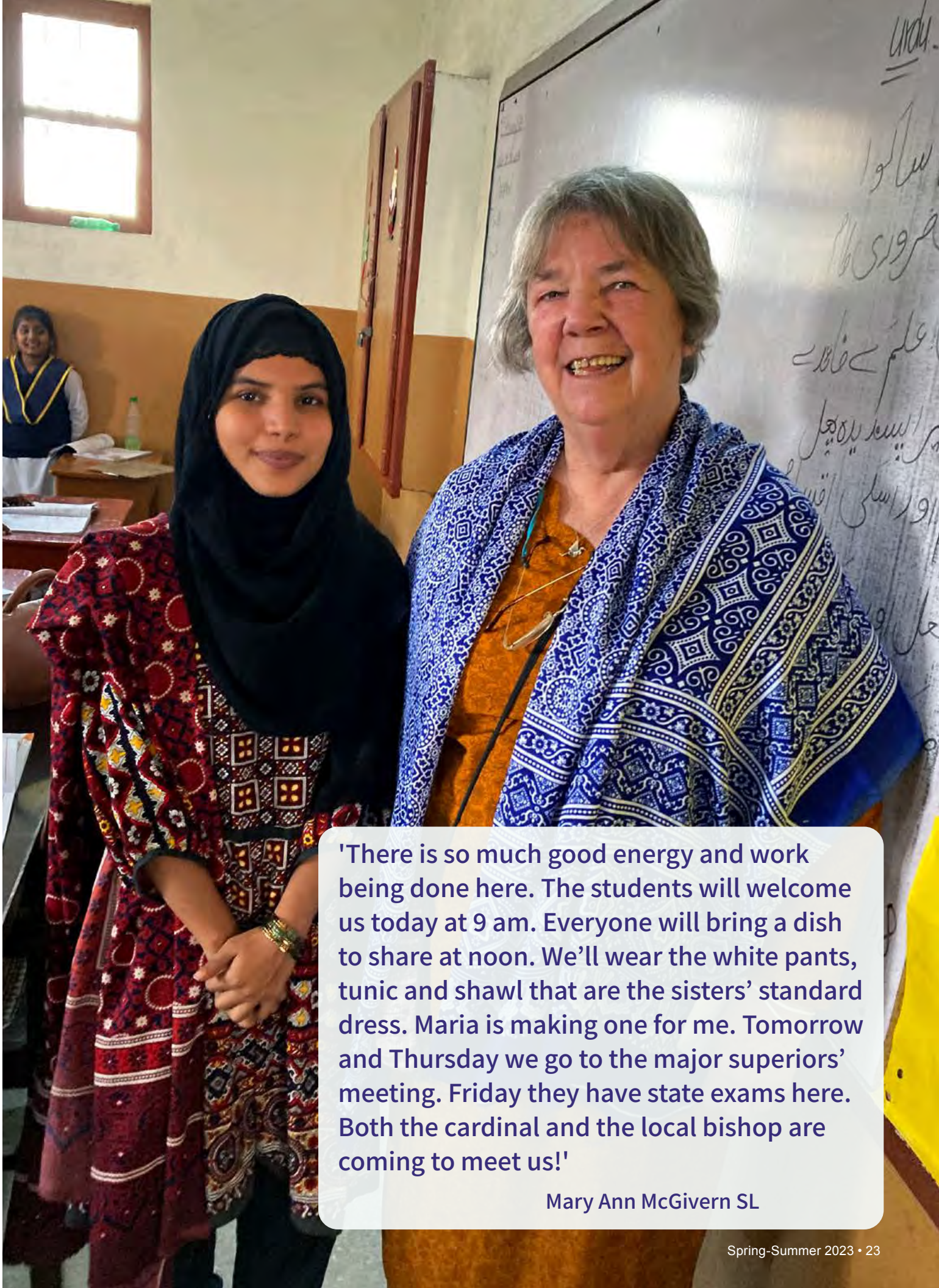
# Visiting Loretto in Pakistan

Anna Koop SL and Mary Ann McGivern SL recently visited the Loretto Community in Pakistan for seven weeks. Anna and Mary Ann wrote colorful and informative missives to keep the Community apprised of their experiences. Enjoy these excerpts, along with a sampling of Mary Ann's photos.

Shortly after their arrival, Anna wrote, "Life here is centered around community, prayer and work. My day begins with coffee, of course, and then praying with the community at 7:30. We eat all three meals together, oftentimes in silence, as seems to be the practice of the culture. There is a real intention and attention around most of what is done. We have afternoon tea together and then pray a rosary. The evening meal is around 7:30."

*Facing page, Mary Ann McGivern SL pauses for a photo with one of the teachers at St. Anthony's School in Lahore, Pakistan, run by Loretto. Below, Anna Koop SL is greeted on arrival by young children at St. Anthony's. Photos courtesy of Mary Ann McGivern SL*





'There is so much good energy and work being done here. The students will welcome us today at 9 am. Everyone will bring a dish to share at noon. We'll wear the white pants, tunic and shawl that are the sisters' standard dress. Maria is making one for me. Tomorrow and Thursday we go to the major superiors' meeting. Friday they have state exams here. Both the cardinal and the local bishop are coming to meet us!'

Mary Ann McGivern SL



Above, Loretto in Pakistan gathers with Anna Koop SL and Mary Ann McGivern SL; standing, from left: Samina Iqbal SL, Nasreen Daniel SL (school principal), Anna Koop SL, Maria Daniel SL, Mary Ann McGivern SL; in front: Loretto friends Saima and Shaista.

Right: A young girl, dressed in her finest, welcomes the American Sisters of Loretto.

Below, a passing hand-painted truck is captured by Mary Ann McGivern SL's camera. Photos courtesy of Mary Ann McGivern SL

Donations to our Pakistan fund will supply scholarships and meals. Please use the envelope provided or visit our website: [www.lorettocommunity.org/donate](http://www.lorettocommunity.org/donate)



'Last week was a time of preparation for the exams at school this week. Samina, Shaista and Saima all teach at the school and prepared questions for the exams. Maria, Mary Ann and I worked on getting the questions typed up to be printed and distributed. Today Maria and Samina went to Faisalabad to speak with a religious community about installing solar on their buildings.'

Anna Koop SL



2022 Annual Donor Report

With humble hearts ...



we give thanks



*Clockwise from top left, Barbara Nicholas SL and Anthony Mary Sartorius SL, Nancy Wittwer SL, Claudia Calzetta SL and Barbara Ann Barbato SL, Christina Garcia CoL and Michele Stimac CoL.*

*Photos by Donna Mattingly SL, Regina Drey SL, Jean M. Schildz, Ruth Routten CoL*

# 2022 Annual Donor Report

## Donations Received

### Donations received for the work of the Loretto Community

Catholic Worker/ Anna Koop SL ministry	2 donors	\$13,000
Cedars of Peace Retreat Ctr.	109 donors	\$7,372
Earth education and advocacy	3 donors	\$3,192
Haiti projects	24 donors	\$60,086
Hunger Fund	83 donors	\$20,797
Immigrant support/advocacy	18 donors	\$4,429
J. Gramick SL ministry	13 donors	\$5,585
Knobs Haven Retreat Center	128 donors	\$12,387
Loretto Building Fund	5 donors	\$24,500
Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund	8 donors	\$1,871
Loretto Feminist Network	2 donors	\$900
Loretto Heights campus cemetery	3 donors	\$1,050
Loretto Heritage Center: Archives and Museum	22 donors	\$10,765
Loretto Justice Fellowship	6 donors	\$802
Loretto Living Center at the Motherhouse/Infirmiry	98 donors	\$32,920
Loretto Motherhouse	12 donors	\$12,500
Loretto Motherhouse Farm	4 donors	\$30,350
Loretto in Pakistan mission	34 donors	\$47,293
Loretto Tree & Native Plant Fund	2 donors	\$530
Loretto at the UN	1 donor	\$702
Peace and justice work	18 donors	\$1,568
Retirement fund for sisters	168 donors	\$156,208
Special Needs Fund	1 donor	\$5,000
Where funds are most needed	650 donors	\$405,151
Wills: gifts from	8 donors	\$1,090,069

**Total received \$1,949,027**

### Gifts to Loretto-Connected Recipients

All Pueblo Council of Governors	2 donors	\$5000
Ann Manganaro Clinic	1 donor	\$1,000
Escuela de Guadalupe school	1 donor	\$250
FST Sisters, Ghana	4 donors	\$8,791
Loretto Daycare Center	1 donor	\$10,000
Mary Luke Tobin Scholarship	14 donors	\$6,560
Mayfield, Ky., tornado aid	16 donors	\$1,572
Ukrainian refugee assistance	1 donor	\$2,000

**Total received \$35,173**



**All donations received \$1,984,200**



# Donations to Loretto support valuable ministries ...

## Catholic Worker/Anna Koop SL Ministry

Supports Anna Koop SL's work with the unhoused and the Denver Catholic Worker houses.

## Earth Education and Advocacy

Provides a variety of educational resources available to all on Loretto's website. A focus on the papal encyclical *Laudato Si'* (*On Care for Our Common Home*) began with Loretto's decision in 2021 to join the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform. This important work has continued.

## Jeannine Gramick SL Ministry

Advocates on behalf of LGBTQ+ rights and those who support these rights, especially Catholics, through New Ways Ministry. Jeannine received a letter from Pope Francis in 2022 thanking her for her work.

## Haiti Projects

Supports the many schools, orphanages and social services of the Little Sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. Also provides elementary, secondary and college scholarships. Barbara Wander CoL leads this effort. Kathy Wright SL, also a veteran of work in Haiti, offers retreats for those working with the poor in Haiti and assists Fonkoze, a microfinance organization helping impoverished Haitians reach economic self-sufficiency.

## Hunger Fund

Distributes aid to organizations and Community members who are providing food to the hungry. In 2022 funds were distributed to groups in Arizona, Colorado, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Mexico and Pakistan.



Students from Loretto Academy in El Paso and St. Mary's Academy in Englewood, Colo., joined Beth Blissman (far right), Loretto's U.N. NGO Representative, for the 67th U.N. Commission on the Status of Women. The experience was enriching for all. Photo by Beth Blissman CoL

Below, St. Mary's Academy students join with Loretto Community members to march in Denver's Marade celebrating and remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his civil rights legacy. Photo by Lucy Ewing



# 2022 Annual Donor Report



Quetzal Fund participants gather for a photo. The organization received a grant from the Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund. Photo courtesy of Quetzal Fund



## **Loretto Motherhouse**

Donating to this fund supports care and maintenance of the Motherhouse and appreciation events for residents and employees.

## **Loretto Motherhouse Farm**

Raises grass-fed beef and non-GMO grains using conservation practices, including intensive cover cropping, that keep a significant amount of carbon in the ground and out of the atmosphere. These regenerative farm practices are shared with others through farmer education events, the annual Ag Bash and group tours.

## **Immigrant Support and Advocacy**

Helps to meet the needs of migrants on both sides of the Mexico/U.S. border and in the fields of the U.S. Funds help with food, laundry and shelter, processing of asylum claims, educational trips, presentations and work with groups on the ground advocating for change. Includes the work of the Latin America/Caribbean Committee and many Loretto members.

## **Loretto Building Fund**

Funds maintenance and necessary renovations of buildings at the Motherhouse and the homes of sisters living and working elsewhere.

## **Loretto Community Carbon Reduction Fund**

Supports projects that mitigate carbon emission damage and help heal and balance Earth's ecosystems. In 2022 grants were made to groups in Guatemala, Haiti, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and the U.S.

## **Loretto Feminist Network**

Acts for the empowerment of women and all people. The work includes mobilizing support for the Convention to end Discrimination against Women and passing the Equal Rights Amendment in the U.S.

## **Loretto Heights Campus Cemetery**

Provided headstones at Mount Olivet Cemetery for the Summer 2022 reinterment of sisters who had been buried at the Loretto Heights College Cemetery.

## **Loretto Heritage Center: Archives and Museum**

Documents Loretto history through the lens of our members and our works with professional preservation efforts, interpretive exhibits and continuing research initiatives.

## **Loretto Justice Fellowship**

Sponsors fellows from the University of Texas El Paso with paid social justice internships. A transition from the Loretto Volunteer Program that ended last July, this pilot program includes community-building support and collaboration with Loretto.

## **Loretto Living Center at Loretto Motherhouse (previously Loretto Motherhouse Infirmary)**

Provides care for Loretto sisters and co-members, former employees and friends and neighbors in need. It was honored with its second Best of Kentucky award in 2022 and consistently receives five-star ratings.



Visitors enjoy their time at the Loretto Motherhouse Farm. Photo by Angela Rakes

## **Loretto in Pakistan**

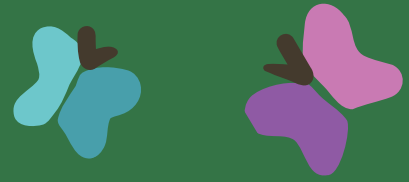
Operates a school for Christian and Muslim students from poor families in Lahore and responds to neighbors' needs for food, clean drinking water and literacy instruction. One of the sisters also teaches theology at the seminary and another teaches installation of solar panels.

## **Loretto Tree and Native Plant Fund**

Purchases trees and native plants to help mitigate climate change and add beauty at the Motherhouse.

## **Loretto at the UN**

Pursues international peace, climate justice and the rights of women and children. Loretto has non-governmental organization status and staff



representation at the United Nations. Hosting college interns and bringing high schools students to New York City to experience the U.N. are important to the work. In this video Emma Sandu, 2022 intern, talks about her life-impacting experience: <https://bit.ly/41mb651>

**Peace and Justice Work**

Supports the work of the Loretto Peace Committee. The committee advocates for the abolition of nuclear weapons and reduction of the U.S. military budget. In 2022 donations supported Community members' travel to the Poor People's Campaign March in Washington, D.C.

**Retirement Fund**

Ensures that retirement provision is made for Sisters of Loretto who received little to no compensation for their work.

**Retreat Centers: Cedars of Peace and Knobs Haven**

Provides space for rest, beauty and transformation. Cedars offers eight cabins in a wooded area for those seeking solitude. Knobs hosts groups



*Loretto members visit Congressional offices in Washington, D.C., in June 2022. From left, Christian Watkins of NETWORK, Beth Blissman CoL and Lillian Moskeland CoL at Senator Robert Jones Portman's office.*

*Photo courtesy of Lillian Moskeland CoL*

and individuals in two beautiful buildings on the Motherhouse campus. Retreatants often donate extra in appreciation.

**Special Needs Fund**

Provides long-range social change grants to organizations whose work

reflects Loretto priorities. In addition, the fund assists individuals impacted by emergency events.

**Wherever Funds are Most Needed**

Supports Loretto's mission and gives us the flexibility to meet immediate or unanticipated needs. Your confidence in our work is gratifying.

**Gifts from a Will**

Enables the donors' commitment to Loretto's mission and people to continue into the future. Eight bequests were made in 2022.



*Nasreen Daniel SL, president of St. Anthony's School in Lahore, Pakistan, celebrates awards day with the students. Photo by Mary Ann McGivern*



*Loretto Community members and friends enjoy one another's company at the home of Jeannine Gramick SL this past June following their participation in the Poor People Campaign's March on Washington. Photo courtesy of Mary Jean Friel CoL*

# 2022 Annual Donor Report

## Gifts to Loretto-connected recipients

### All Pueblo Council of Governors

Donates to the council of 20 Pueblo nations in New Mexico. The council's work prioritizes youth, education and health, as well as protecting water rights and land.

### Ann Manganaro Clinic

Supports purchases of medicine and other needs at the clinic Ann Manganaro SL founded in Guarjila, El Salvador. See [pages 6-11](#) of this issue for more about Ann and her work.

### Escuela de Guadalupe

Provides assistance to students at this Loretto-affiliated school in Denver. Half of the students are native English speakers when they begin and half are native Spanish speakers. Students graduate 8<sup>th</sup> grade with full literacy in both languages.

### FST Sisters, Ghana

Helps support the school and programs of the Daughters of the Most Blessed Trinity (FST), a Loretto Sister Community.

### Loretto Daycare Center

Assists children of employees and neighbors. The daycare was founded by Kay Carlew SL who died in 2020.

### Mary Luke Tobin Award

Awards this college scholarship to a student active in social justice in honor of Mary Luke Tobin SL who was renowned for her pursuit of social justice. Holy Family High School in Denver, aided by a committee of Loretto members and friends, selects the honoree. Scholarships have been awarded annually since 2012.

### Assistance to Mayfield, Kentucky Tornado Victims

Aided victims of the devastating tornado that struck in December 2021. Assistance continued in 2022.

### Ukrainian Refugee Assistance

Provided aid to refugees fleeing Ukraine following the Russian invasion.



*Left, Micah McCabe, Holy Family High School graduate, attends a ceremony recognizing Adyson Hill, the most recent recipient of the Mary Luke Tobin Award. Micah received the award in 2021. Photo courtesy of Ken Fitch*

*Top right, an Escuela de Guadalupe grad smiles on her big day. The school graduates students who are fully literate in English and Spanish. Photo courtesy of Escuela de Guadalupe*

*Right, this photo of siblings in a town near the western border between Ghana and Ivory Coast was taken by Marie Ego SL who spent 18 years living and working in Ghana, West Africa.*





*Clockwise from above left, Maureen Fielder SL and Bonnie Roman, teacher at St. Mary's Academy in Colorado, enjoy time together at the Loretto Motherhouse; Mary Swain SL adds plants to the pollinator garden at the Motherhouse; Mary Ann McGivern SL, Allison Lemons CoL, Mary Jean Friel CoL and Virginia Nesmith, Loretto's development director, smile for the camera in Santa Fe, N.M. Photos by Regina Drey SL, Susan Classen CoL and Christina Manweller*



**Maria Brann CoL**

**June 30, 1925 – Feb. 13, 2023**

Maria approached the world with unconditional love. She was in the U.S. Navy for four years where she was a Morse Code radioman (the designation for men and women). After her discharge from the Navy, she joined the Franciscan Sisters of Atonement for 12 years, teaching young people. After leaving the sisters, she moved to the San Francisco Bay Area and served as a parish church administrator, a volunteer for Catholic Charities and a social worker for the city of San Francisco. In retirement, she attended Most Holy Redeemer Church in San Francisco's Castro District where she welcomed and provided hospitality to all who came by — gay, trans, homeless, dying of AIDs or any combination of those. Maria died February 13 at the age of 97.



**Barbara Kinney CoL**

**Jan. 11, 1940 – Feb. 22, 2023**

Barbara married the love of her life, Edwin "Ed" Kinney, in 1958. Over the years, she served in various office administration and managerial roles for groups including Sisters of Loretto / Loretto in Kansas City and the Sewing Gin and Hartsaw Equipment Company, Inc. in Olathe, Kan. She worked at Olathe Hospital as a medical credentialing agent for several years. Barbara will be remembered for her love of sewing, knitting, her amazing cooking and her enjoyment of spending time with family. Above all, she was a devoted mother, raising four children alongside Ed. Barbara was an active Loretto co-member since 2014 and a supportive friend to Loretto in Kansas City since the early 1970s.



**Carol Ann Ptacek SL**

**April 7, 1941 – April 29, 2023**

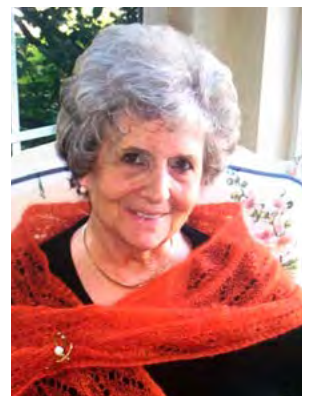
Carol Ann's first mission was teaching Latin and religion at Loretto Academy High School in El Paso. For two summers she worked as a nurse's aide in the Loretto Motherhouse nursing facility and as an aide at Nazareth Hall in El Paso while continuing to teach. After three years, Carol Ann had to decide whether to teach or nurse. She chose nursing and proceeded to earn a master's degree in nursing and qualify as a registered nurse. Carol Ann cared for residents in Loretto's healthcare facilities for nearly 45 years. She served as director of nursing at Nazareth Hall, healthcare coordinator at the Denver Loretto Center, nurse at Loretto Motherhouse Infirmary and convent community nurse at Loretto Motherhouse.



**JoAnn Purcell CoL**

**Sept. 29, 1933 – Jan. 24, 2023**

Josephine Ann "JoAnn" O'Connell, born in Kansas City, Mo., was the eldest of 10 children. When she was 24, she became a Trans World Airlines flight attendant, earning her million mile pin by flying the route from Kansas City to Rome throughout her career. She resigned from this work in 1961 when she married Larry Purcell. They ultimately settled their home in Denver. JoAnn gave birth to six children in less than seven years and was a stay-at-home mother for many years. She worked with Larry, a dentist, for 25 years before they retired together. Jo Ann was a superb cook, excellent tennis player and accomplished pianist. She became a Loretto co-member in 1993; Larry followed suit in 2012. JoAnn lived her Christian faith by supporting justice and peace issues whenever and wherever possible.



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



# Memorials and Tributes of Honor

## January 2023 – April 2023

***In Honor of:***  
Requested by:

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

***Pauline Albin SL***

Betty Lewis

***Barbara Ann Barbato SL***

Donna Marie Campbell

***Susan Charmley SL***

Mary Beth Reese

***Maria Daniel SL***

Jacqueline St. Joan

***Vivian Doremus\****

Barbara Martin

***Regina Drey SL***

Katherine Wayne

***Mary Duennes***

Kathleen Noonan

***Marie Ego SL***

Mary Beth Reese

Patricia Lewis

***Jeannine Gramick SL***

John M. Le Bedda, II

Margarita Covarrubias

Jennifer Morgan

***Lisa Hendricks***

Emma and George Steen

***Mary Jo Highland***

Mary A. Highland

***Maggie Keane***

Kathy and Dan Goyette

***Anna Koop SL***

Mary Sue Anderson

***Mary Kenneth Lewis SL***

Mary Ellen Lewis

Paige Patterson

***Amy Main***

Brigid Crush

***Mother Earth***

JoAnn Gates\*

***Anndavid Naeger SL***

Lyndie Duff

***Lydia Pena SL***

Mary Alice McManus

***Sylvia Sedillo SL***

Daniel Sedillo

Janis Sedillo

Rosina Sedillo

***Mary Swain SL***

Martha Alderson\*

Kathy and Dan Goyette

***Barbara Wander\****

John Kling and Vicki Landis

***In Memory of:***  
Requested by:

***Barbara Anderson SL***

Joy and Gary Addiego

***Martha Belke SL***

Susan and David Bischof

Michael and Kathleen

Dicken

***Mary Grace Boone SL***

Mary Rogers

***Mary Peter Bruce SL***

Lillian Moskeland\*

***Mary Denis Bruck SL***

Stephen Clegg

***Edward and Frances Cassilly***

Patricia and Dallas Edwards

***Michael Kearney Cavanaugh***

Peggy and John Barrett

John and Michaela Blazek

Ellen Eckhardt

Gwen Howell Klein

Robert Klein

Klein Tools

Lynn Kummerer

Joan Lang

Maggie Levinsohn

Victor Lewis

Nancy Lund

Kati Stewart

***Elizabeth Ann Compton SL***

Ann Kammien\*

***Judith Ann Vessels Costelle***

Candace Cox

***Mary Ann Coyle SL***

David Dwyer

***Marilyn Cusick***

Dorothy Cusick

***Ame Calistiana De Leon***

Ryan Pratt

***Francis Demo***

Cathy Bordeman

***Tom Denning***

Marquita Monsour & Roger Metry

**In Memory of:**  
Requested by:

**Maria Ann Dillon SL**  
Barbara Rancour  
**Evelyn Donohoo**  
Joellen McDonald  
**Joseph Estrella**  
Maria and Tim Loveall  
**Miki Fabac**  
Emma and George Steen  
**Jean Patrice Golden SL**  
Barbara Martin  
**Marie Noel Hebert SL**  
James Hebert  
**Eileen Marie Heckman SL**  
Louise and Gene Rahll  
**Joseph Highland**  
Mary A. Highland  
**Gabriel Mary Hoare SL**  
Mary Akers  
**Evelyn Houlihan SL**  
Julie Rose Stone  
**Carol Elaine Johnson**  
Donna Johnson  
**Jean Kelley SL**  
Rose Marie Hayden  
**Barbara Jean Kinney**  
Kathy Baldwin-Heitman\*  
Barbara Branson



Photo by Christina Manweller

Jo Anne Covington  
Christopher McCurdy  
Daniel Summers  
**Jane Kusters\***  
Isabel Derr  
Julie Rose Stone  
**Del Lewis**  
Donovan Lewis  
**Loretto**  
**All Deceased Sisters**  
Mary Sue Anderson  
**Loretto Sisters who toiled  
in the vineyard, but I was  
too young to appreciate.**  
Gary Kress  
**Patricia Jean Manion SL**  
Mary Pat Lease  
Hon. Ann Shake  
**Patricia Eve Singer McCracken**  
Ellen Hargis  
Julee Herdt  
Jay and Jennifer Steadman  
**Stuart Melvin**  
Robert and Judith Allan  
Stephanie Steere  
**Olivia Montgomery**  
Vince Montgomery  
**John Moskeland\***  
Lillian Moskeland\*  
**Mary Lee Murphy SL**  
Roger Liebert  
**Marie O'Flaherty SL**  
Jo Ann Rice\*  
**John Phifer**  
Mary Dunahoe  
**Rosalie Marie Phillips SL**  
Raymond Stevison, Jr.  
**Carol Ann Ptacek SL**  
Susan and David Bischof  
**Josephine Ann "Jo Ann"  
O'Connell Purcell\***  
Martha J. Alderson\*  
Judith Baenen\*  
Nancy Lawrence and Family  
Judy Reyhle  
Carol Schrott  
Victoria and Craig Siracusa

**Larry Purcell**  
Martha J. Alderson\*  
**Vicki Quatmann SL**  
Robert and Aidea Sluyter  
**Mary Anne Reese\***  
Peg Conway  
Ruth and Roger Foote  
Christine and John Heatherman  
Liz Keuffer  
Kathleen Noonan  
Daniel Pfahl  
Margaret Quinn  
Robert and Mary Schneider  
Gerry Weller  
**Betty Thieler Regan LHC '49**  
James Regan  
**Ellen Rehg**  
Michael Rehg  
**Jane Marie Richardson SL**  
Ruth Anne Dupre-Tripp  
**Francis Louise Ritter SL**  
Katherine Bick Merritt  
**Rose Alma Schuler SL**  
Lyndie Duff  
**William Skees**  
Martha Alderson\*  
**Pat Griffin Slate, LHC '52**  
Mary Murphy  
**Pauline Marie Smith SL**  
Louise and Gene Rahll  
**Concetta Torrillo SL**  
Larry Brunelli  
**Flaget Waller SL**  
Louise and Gene Rahll  
**Stephana Westhoff SL**  
Emily Westhoff  
**Florence Wolff SL**  
Louise and Gene Rahll



# Postscript

Dear Loretto Friends,

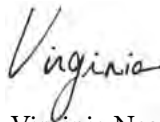
Summer is upon us as you receive this, and I hope it brings as many gifts of wonder as spring has brought me. Where I live I especially enjoy watching the redbud and dogwood trees bloom. I smile at daffodils popping up, robins taking their first bath of the season and the squirrels doing gymnastics from tree to tree. We send videos of such spring activities to our 4-year-old granddaughter who loves to get them.

No matter the season, we love to hear from you and to receive your gifts. Each donation, each note about your connection to Loretto, each prayer request, honorarium or memorial touches our hearts. You may be giving in appreciation of a recent encounter with Loretto or one that goes back 60 years. You trust Loretto with your concerns and your joy.

We are so grateful that you support the many ways Loretto carries out its mission. You care about Loretto's work with the poor as lived by Ann Manganaro SL and by the many Loretto members today who feed the hungry, shelter the weary and work for a just society. You

appreciate the exceptional nursing of loved ones at the Motherhouse, the care of its property, the new trees regularly planted and the conservation easement for the future. You support the hard work done by our Loretto sisters in Pakistan and that of sisters we have come to know in Haiti and Ghana. You want the sisters who taught and inspired you to be well cared for in their retirement. The annual report lists all the areas where 1,300 of you donated in 2022, along with eight whose support came as a bequest.

You are a very generous community of givers who fills us with hope! May Loretto's continued commitment to "work for justice and act for peace," and our prayers and gratitude for each of you, give you hope today.



Virginia Nesmith  
Development Director



*A redbud tree in full glory at the Loretto Motherhouse in Nerinx, Ky. Photo by Christina Manweller*



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*If I keep trying to give my life for others ...  
somehow God is being born in that.*

Ann Manganaro SL