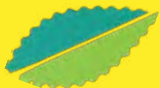




Inside ...

- We introduce Loretto's elected leadership
- Co-member's art inspires Loretto
- Loretto tirelessly acts for peace
- Meet our newest Loretto Justice Fellows
- Loretto enters fresh ministry in Pakistan
- ... and more



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Front cover:

Ceciliana Skees SL, top right, served children and families in Louisville, Ky., for nearly 40 years, truly living the Loretto spirit. She is celebrating her 75th jubilee!

Photo: Peg Jacobs CoL

Robert Strobridge CoL, bottom right, has created numerous colorful banners for the Loretto Community over the years, including this Loretto Spirit banner. Thank you, Bob! Learn about Bob and his art, and view more of his banners, starting on [page 12](#).



Back cover:

Loretto members attended a march and vigil for human dignity in El Paso in March 2024. El Paso Bishop Mark Seitz, El Paso Auxiliary Bishop Anthony Celino and other faith and community leaders hosted the event in support of migrant rights and in remembrance of those who have died crossing the desert.

Photo courtesy of Annie Rosenkranz



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, seek to abolish nuclear weapons, work with people who are poor and marginalized and minister to those 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.

For information on co-membership: www.lorettocommunity.org/join-us/co-members

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Dear Reader,

As the newly-elected president of the Loretto Community, I invite you as you read this magazine to journey with us through this window into Loretto.

After a few months of being in this position, I am continually amazed by the wonderful service of our members. I experience

our members embodying a spirit of blending contemplation with action in so many ways. I hope you find this to be true as you read the following pages.

We are pleased to introduce you to our new Leadership Team members. Individually and together we are a small piece of our membership, and I pray we continue to be grounded in gratitude as we do our best to serve Loretto and the broader world. You'll also meet the newest Loretto Justice Fellows, who are embarking on lives of service, drawing inspiration from Loretto. The Fellows are engaged in social change with some of the most vulnerable.

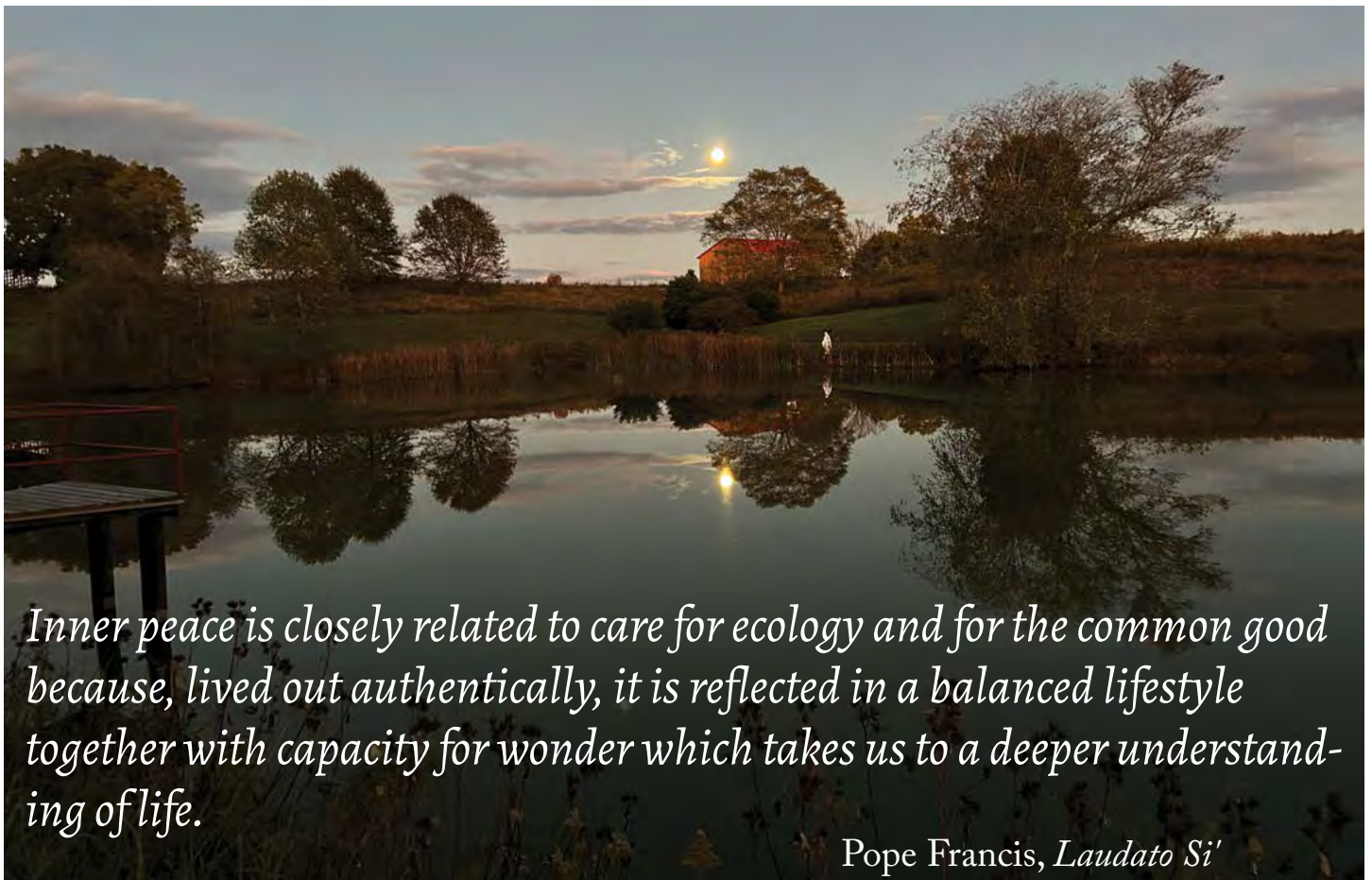
We highlight Loretto's two Peace Committees and how the steadfast commitment of members has led to actions

for peace since 1970. You will meet artist Bob Strobridge CoL, who has inspired Loretto for decades with his beautiful hand-sewn banners that have become signature Loretto images. Learn about how he came to know Loretto and the story behind his banners. You'll also meet Ceciliana Skees SL, celebrating her 75th jubilee this year! Ceciliana's life of love and service is an inspiration to us all. Finally, you'll read about our exciting new mission in Pakistan at the parish school where Loretto sisters are now serving.

I hope you enjoy learning more about our lives together. As we say in *I Am the Way*, Loretto's Constitutions, "We continue to extend the boundaries of learning and justice, of human dignity and peace, of active faith and pastoral concern through works of education and efforts on behalf of the poor."

Blessings,

Sr. Mary E. (Buffy) Boesen SL
President of Loretto



Inner peace is closely related to care for ecology and for the common good because, lived out authentically, it is reflected in a balanced lifestyle together with capacity for wonder which takes us to a deeper understanding of life.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*

The moon rises over Badin Pond at Loretto Motherhouse in Nerinx, Ky. Photo: Martha Alderson CoL

St. Mary's Academy celebrates 160 years

By Regina Drey SL

When the 699 students of St. Mary's Academy (SMA) gathered for the school's 160th birthday party in September, it was a joy-filled, high-energy celebration from drone cameras capturing students forming the number 160 to commemorative T-shirts, lively music and birthday cake. The 2024-2025 academic year is one of unending pride, and the birthday party was the first of many events honoring the past and propelling SMA into the future.

St. Mary's Academy was the first mission of the Sisters of Loretto in Colorado when they arrived in 1864 and today proudly aligns with the Loretto Community through the Loretto School values of faith, community, justice and respect. SMA conferred the first ever diploma in the Colorado Territory to Jessie Forshee in 1875. She joined the Sisters of Loretto and became a renowned educator.



Students are all smiles as they celebrate St. Mary's Academy's 160-year milestone. Photo courtesy Regina Drey SL

Two Loretto-founded schools mark 100 years

Nerinx Hall High School St. Louis

Loretto members joined a 3,000-plus crowd in October to celebrate Nerinx's 100-year anniversary. Festivities included a Mass, student performances, campus tours, carnival games, food from local restaurants and entertainment into the night. A light show featured images from Loretto and Nerinx history; one depicted a schoolgirl carrying three flowers representing the first Loretto sisters and founders, Mary Rhodes, Ann Havern and Christina Stuart.



Photo: Annie Stevens CoL



Proud of Nerinx! From left are Barbara Roche SL (former school president, in green), Kathy Sullivan SL, Claudia Calzetta SL and Annie Stevens CoL.

Loretto Catholic School Douglas, Ariz.

Six Loretto members attended the Sept. 21 centennial celebration in honor of Loretto Catholic School in Douglas, Ariz. Festivities included a Mass, mariachi music, a delicious meal and tour of the school. Loretto attendees were Irma Avila SL, Mary Bundy CoL, Kathleen Corbett SL, Mary Jean Friel CoL, Jane German CoL and Paulette Peterson CoL. Congratulations to Loretto Catholic School for a successful 100 years!



Waiting for the Loretto Catholic School celebration and Mass to begin are, from left, Kathleen Corbett SL, Jane German CoL, Irma Avila SL, Mary Jean Friel CoL and Mary Bundy CoL. Photo: Paulette Peterson CoL

Loretto leaders share: *What Loretto means to me*



Kathy Wright SL shares what Loretto means to her in a recent video shot by Will Myers.

Loretto's newly-elected leaders hold in common a deep commitment to Loretto and to peace and justice throughout the world, each living a life of service and dedication to the well-being of their near and farther neighbor.

Watch a short video in which several Executive Committee and Community Forum members share what they feel being in community in Loretto is about. You'll find that love, faith and laughter are common themes.

Check out our Spotlight Video page here: www.lorettocommunity.org/spotlight.

For me, Loretto is a Community of faith in service to the world.

Kathy Wright SL

What has been so important to me in Loretto is living in community where we support one another in how we live our concern about the marginalized, the vulnerable, where we work for peace and justice.

Mary Margaret Murphy SL



**See our most recent Loretto Spotlight video:
www.lorettocommunity.org/spotlight**

Leading into the future

On Sept. 15, the Loretto Community officially transitioned to newly-elected leadership in a ceremony held at the Motherhouse church. The ceremony's significant moments included the welcoming of new leadership members and an expression of gratitude to outgoing members. Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Marty Lally CoL, newly-elected Community Forum member. As Father Marty shared, it was "a day of joy and gratitude." The spirit of Loretto is shining bright!



Mary E. (Buffy) Boesen SL, is Loretto's newest president.

Photos this page: Will Myers



Mary Margaret Murphy SL, re-elected vice president, participates in the ceremony.



From left, newly-elected leadership members Kathy Wright SL, Jane German CoL and Maribah Ishaq SL participate in the ceremony. The candles symbolize the light they carry as they serve the Community.



The Rev. Marty Lally CoL celebrates Mass during the transition ceremony. Father Marty lives in Denver and has been an active Loretto co-member for more than 30 years, serving on committees and leading retreats.



From left, Donna Mattingly SL, Cathy Mueller SL and Cathy Smith SL, elected Executive Committee members, join in song during the ceremony and Mass.

Loretto Executive Committee 2024 - 2028: Serving Loretto and beyond

Mary E. (Buffy) Boesen SL was elected Loretto's newest president this past summer, an honor and a role she has stepped into with enthusiasm.

Buffy was received into the Loretto Community in 1978 and has spent most of her adult life serving in schools. A special joy was teaching middle school children, especially those who learn differently.

In 2000 she took on leadership of Loretto Academy in El Paso, Texas, serving as president for 22 years before retiring. Since retirement, she has volunteered helping migrants seeking asylum in the U.S. (Loretto's immigration justice work was featured in the [winter 2024 issue](#) of *Loretto Magazine*).

Buffy has been committed to working for justice and acting for peace, protesting at the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant in Colorado and joining the Great Peace March in 1986 — walking from Los Angeles to Washington, D.C., over eight months. (See the [winter 2021 issue](#) of *Loretto Magazine* for more on the peace march.)

People are often puzzled by her name. She says there were so many Mary Beths in her family that when a cousin called her Buffy, the name stuck.

As she has shared in the Spotlight Video (See link, [page 5](#)), to her, Loretto is "a group of faith-filled men and women who are dedicated to serving God, others — particularly our near and farther neighbors. We are compassionate, we love each other. We respect each other. We respect all of creation, and mostly we have fun and we laugh and we enjoy each other."

Buffy says, "As I reflect on my life in Loretto all I can say is, I am blessed. Please pray for me."



Photo: Will Myers



Donna Mattingly SL met Loretto at age 18 when she worked on the organ in the Motherhouse church. She entered the Community in 2004. The following year, she traveled to Central America to honor the 25th anniversary of four martyred U.S. church women, Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Ford, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel and lay missionary Jean Donovan. Pivotal experiences for Donna included visiting Oscar Romero's home and the site of his assassination, as well as Ann Manganaro SL's clinic in El Salvador. (See the [spring/summer 2023 issue](#) of *Loretto Magazine* to learn about Ann and her work.) Donna shares, "Their spirits were very much alive in the Salvadoran people. It was truly a humbling and heartfelt experience. It gave me a deeper sense of hope in solidarity with my farther neighbors still today."

After working in Loretto's Denver office for many years, in 2012 she moved to the Motherhouse in Nerinx, Ky., to be with her mother, who, at the time, lived in the Infirmarium (now the Loretto Living Center). Donna began working in the finance office, where she serves today.

Donna has a background in art, with a bachelor's degree in sociology and art. Care for Earth and all creation are vital concerns for Donna, who loves spending time outdoors. She is known in Loretto as an accomplished photographer; her photos often appear in *Loretto Magazine*. (See [page 34](#).)



Staff photo



Photo: Will Myers

Cathy Mueller SL formally entered the Loretto Community in 1965. She has taught high school, performed pastoral work in multicultural parishes, led retreats, facilitated workshops and meetings, directed volunteers in a hospice and co-founded and co-directed EarthLinks, a nonprofit in Denver serving persons who are homeless or living in poverty. (See the [summer 2021 issue](#) for more on EarthLinks.) She has served Loretto on the staff, the Loretto Earth Network coordinating group, various committees and in elected leadership. She served as president of the Community from 2007 to 2012. Cathy traveled to Ghana three times in the 1980s as Loretto members began working in the country. (See the [spring/summer 2024 issue](#) of *Loretto Magazine* for more on Loretto's work in Ghana).

In addition to her active work in the world, Cathy values the contemplative dimensions of spirituality and the reality of the Holy Spirit's action in her life and the lives of others. She shares, "Through study, experience and quiet reflection, I have come to appreciate the connectedness of all creation that has shifted many of my perceptions, giving meaning to the 'Great Work' of my life. I have been loved and challenged. I am forever grateful."



Photo: Will Myers

Mary Margaret Murphy SL entered Loretto in 1965. She is now in her second term of service as Loretto's vice president, having been re-elected this past year.

Mary Margaret earned degrees in English, education and early childhood development. She has spent a lifetime in service to Hispanic communities.

She worked for 26 years in the San Luis Valley in southern Colorado, serving in advocacy for the elderly through Christian Community Services, acting as a case manager for Conejos County Public Health and for Valleywide Community Health Clinic; she was instrumental in introducing SHARE Colorado, a statewide Catholic Charities program.

Mary Margaret then moved from Colorado to El Paso, Texas, and spent 12 years serving as case manager at Villa Maria, a shelter for women who are homeless. In 2018 she transitioned from Villa Maria to serve as Loretto's vice president. She also coordinated the Loretto Volunteer Program (now Loretto Justice Fellowship). Mary Margaret continues to serve as a consultant to Villa Maria. She has been an active volunteer assisting migrants.



Cathy Smith SL entered Loretto in 1987. Her Loretto roots run deep and wide. Many family members were educated by Loretto. A great-aunt, Anna Marie Plowman SL, and aunt, Mary Ann Cunningham SL, were Sisters of Loretto. (See Mary Ann's obituary on [page 28.](#))

Cathy holds a bachelor's degree in gerontology with a minor in pastoral care from the College of Mount St. Joseph. Early in her professional life, she worked with homebound clients and AIDS patients, before moving to the Loretto Motherhouse in 1992 and working in the Infirmary as an assistant and then as director of social services.

Starting in 2006 she worked for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in their home-health program, staying for 13 years. For more than 11 of those years, she worked simultaneously at Truman Medical Center as the weekend chaplain, covering the hospital and behavioral health units. She also has served through volunteer disaster work with the Red Cross.

Cathy has served on many Loretto committees and now acts as the Community Life Coordinator at Loretto Motherhouse. She says Loretto continues to enrich her life daily.



Photo: Will Myers

Kathy Wright SL entered Loretto in 1986. She has taught at the high school level, served as a parish administrator, a chief operating officer and as a member of the board of several nonprofits. She met Loretto sisters in her nonprofit work and was inspired to enter vowed life. She has served at Loretto Academy in El Paso and Nerinx Hall High School in St. Louis. Kathy was blessed to live in Haiti from 2003 to 2005. (See the [spring/summer 2023 issue](#) of *Loretto Magazine* for her article about nonprofits working in Haiti). She is a Certified Public Accountant and served as the congregation's treasurer for six years beginning in 2013. She has previously served on the Executive Committee.

For several years, Kathy served on the board of the homeowners' association where she lived in Florida. The nonprofit focuses on improving quality of life in the community. She also sat on the board of Hamptons Helping Hands, a nonprofit serving economically-disadvantaged children. For many years, she volunteered at Meals On Wheels in Polk County, Fla., delivering meals to homebound and elderly adults.



Photo: Will Myers



Pages 8-9: Barbara Nicholas SL, at the microphone, outgoing Loretto president, offers a blessing and officially passes leadership to Mary E. (Buffy) Boesen SL, fourth from left, and the new Leadership Team.

Not pictured: Jackie Diego-Medina CoL

Photo: Will Myers

Meet Loretto members elected to serve on



Photo: courtesy Jackie Diego-Medina CoL

Jackie Diego-Medina CoL has been a Loretto co-member since 2007. She is a licensed clinical social worker living in Texas and has been an active volunteer serving migrants in the El Paso area.



Photo: Will Myers

Jane German CoL taught on the Navajo reservation in Thoreau, N.M., for 30 years. She especially enjoyed teaching first grade. Jane holds a bachelor's degree in math and science education, an elementary education certification and master's degrees in elementary and special education.

Jane first met Sisters of Loretto in 1982 while teaching in New Mexico and became a co-member in 1990. From 2003 to 2021 she served as elementary school principal at Loretto Academy in El Paso, Texas, retiring in 2021. She serves on Loretto Academy's Board of Trustees and has volunteered with migrants alongside other Loretto members. (See the [winter 2024 issue](#) of *Loretto Magazine* for more on Loretto's work with migrants).



the Community Forum



Photo: Will Myers

Maribah Ishaq SL pronounced first vows in June 2024, officially embarking on her journey as a Sister of Loretto. Beginning in March 2020, Maribah served at St. Anthony School in Lahore, Pakistan. Prior to her move to Lahore, for 11 years she taught English, Urdu, computers, science and religion to third- through eighth-grade students in Jhelum, Pakistan.

In 2022, she completed the InterCongregational Collaborative Novitiate Program at Catholic Theological Union (CTU) in Chicago. She is currently pursuing a master's in pastoral studies at CTU.



Photo: courtesy the Rev. Marty Lally CoL

Marty Lally CoL hails from Denver, a second-generation graduate of Holy Family High School where Loretto sisters taught. Following graduation he attended the University of Northern Colorado and worked in banking for two years before entering the seminary. Ordained a priest of the Denver Archdiocese in 1978, he served as assistant pastor and pastor in seven parish communities over the years. He loved parish life and worked and ministered with various Loretto members in those communities.

Marty became a Loretto co-member in 1981 and has served on the Ghana Committee and the Co-Membership Team. He has facilitated Loretto Community retreats with Mary Kenneth Lewis SL and Mary Ellen McElroy SL. He is grateful for the values and inspiration he has received from the Community, including a dedication to working for justice and acting for peace. He retired from full-time parish ministry in 2021.





Art for the sake

There is a 'relationship between art and religion, there's no question; it's all one kind of spiritual experience.'

Bob Strobridge drawing at the home in France he shared with his partner Joseph for many years. Bob strongly believes in the connection between art and spirituality.
Photo courtesy of Bob Strobridge CoL

By Christina Manweller

Bob Strobridge CoL has designed and sewn bold, colorful banners for the Loretto Community for decades. The banners, often sharing messages of peace and justice or faith, have been carried in marches, displayed at Loretto events and assemblies and have helped to communicate widely the Community's core values.

Bob was an artist from a young age, and completed two years of art school before enlisting in the military in the early 1950s. During four years of service in the U.S. Air Force, he was stationed in Bavaria and assigned to create posters. Afterward, he went on to finish his art degree. When first entering school, he says, he had wanted to learn art techniques, maybe work in advertising, but after the military, he was "a different person"; he had matured, and his art and reasons for creating had matured too.

Hired by Loretto-founded Webster College (now Webster University) in St. Louis, he taught under Gabriel Mary Hoare SL in the art department for several years. Gabriel Mary, Bob says, was a wonderful influence on his life. While there, he met other Loretto members who would positively impact his life. Later he would become a Loretto co-member.

When he joined the Air Force, Bob says, he was naive and unaware of ideas that would later inform his thinking and life stance, particularly concerning the military.

The banners he would come to make were in contrast to what the military was about, he says. "If I were to go back through those years," he says, "I would have been a conscientious objector."

When asked about the inspiration for his iconic banners, he says, "Sometimes they [Loretto members] would tell me what they were protesting or doing in their public life, and so I would make a banner that tied into that message. I was usually inspired by one of the promotional ideas ... working with the poor, working in Haiti ... and that would spark some kind of a theme for the banners." He says he enjoyed creating them.

Reflecting on the connection between art and spirituality, Bob shares that there is a "relationship between art and religion, there's no question; it's all one kind of spiritual experience." He is adamant that art is personal, "part of your own spirit, your own expression."

Please enjoy images of his banners on the front and back covers of this issue, and on the following pages.

With thanks to Rebecca Sallee Hanson, who recently spoke with Bob at his home in Iowa.

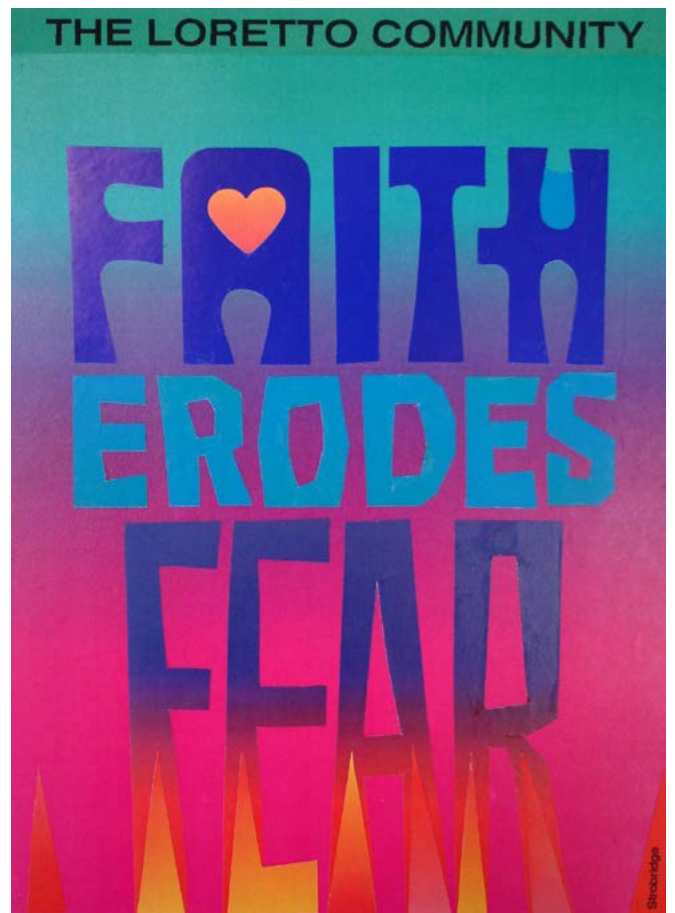
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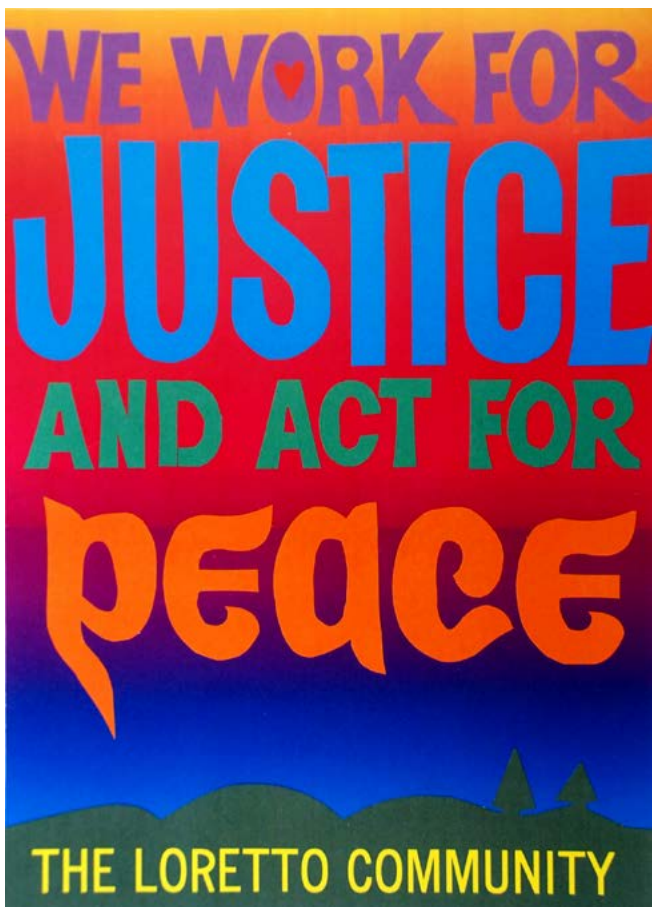
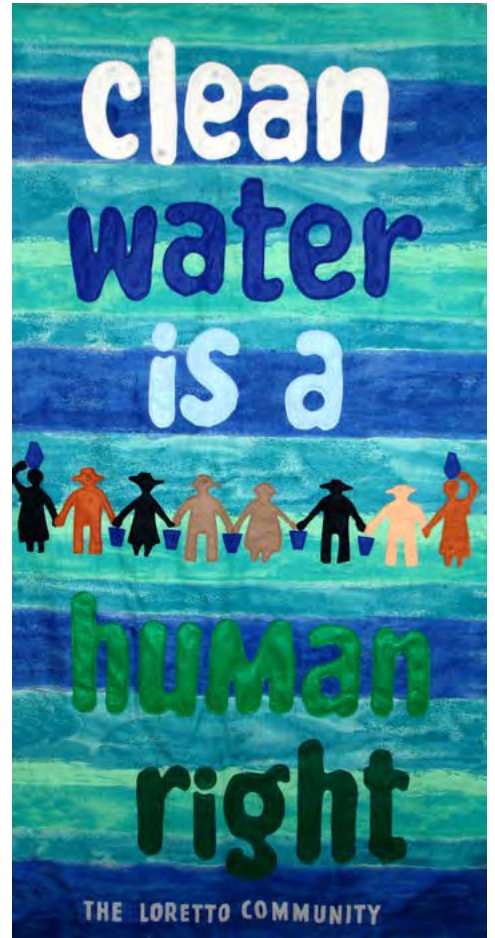


Irma Avila SL receives communion from the Rev. Joe Mitchell on July 7 during Loretto's 2024 Election Assembly. *Photo: Will Myers*



Cathy Mueller SL prepares for Loretto's 2017 Assembly. *Staff photo*





Loretto Peace Committees

By Mary Ann McGivern SL

Loretto has had a Peace Committee working to end war and create a peace culture since the beginning of committee structures within the government we established in 1970. Members are appointed by the Community Forum to educate and represent the Community.

The Motherhouse has had its own Peace Committee for a long time. There's no record of an origin because volunteers simply do the work. This past year the two committees collaborated to write and pay for publication of a Gaza statement. You can [read it](#) on Loretto's website.

The Motherhouse Peace Committee has been conducting an action a month for peace and has:

- Written 1,100 get-out-the-vote letters for Vote Forward
- Shown the films "Origin" and "Chisholm"
- Invited county clerk candidates to a debate
- Invited local churches to proclaim International Peace Day on their marquees
- Initiated a local library books-on-peace display
- Asked the town of Loretto, Ky., to play peace songs on the carillon on Peace Day
- Promoted "Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes"
- Invited outgoing Loretto President Barbara Nicholas SL and incoming President Buffy Boesen SL to sign a Declaration of Peace at their transfer ceremony.

The Communitywide Loretto Peace Committee meets monthly by Zoom and:

- Publishes a quarterly newsletter
- Met at Los Alamos, N.M., representing Loretto, to protest nuclear weapons
- Held an online Community commemoration of the bombing of Hiroshima
- Offers retreats
- Collaborates to end nuclear arms funding, foreign military sales and gun violence.

Both committees staffed a table at Loretto's Election Assembly, collecting signatures to U.S. senators about acting for the passage and ratification of the Global Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The committees support leafleting, lobbying Congress and demonstrating for peace. Loretto engages in work for peace at the border, protests on street corners, attends conferences, teaches, fasts, prays. Our two committees simply gather up the energy of the Community, encouraging and supporting our work for justice and our actions for peace.



Pages 16-17: Loretto Peace Committee members and friends attended a Hiroshima memorial event at Los Alamos, N.M., in August 2023. Participants included, from left, Sally Dunne CoL, Sharon Palma CoL, Mary Jean Friel CoL and Mary Ann McGivern SL. Photo: courtesy Mary Ann McGivern SL

Loretto Peace Committee members:

Allison Lemons CoL, chair; Karel Disponett CoL; Mary Jean Friel CoL; Kitty Madden CoL; Mary Ann McGivern SL; Paulette Peterson CoL; Byron Plumley CoL

Loretto Motherhouse Peace Committee members:

Carolyn Jaramillo CoL, chair; Martha Alderson CoL; Stacy Ballard; Elizabeth Croom CoL; Marie Ego SL*; Kitty Madden CoL; Magdalena McCloskey CoL; Pat McCormick SL; Mary Ann McGivern SL; Joyce Minkler CoL; Alicia Ramirez SL; Mary Swain SL; Maria Visse SL

*Marie Ego SL, a longtime member of the committee, died in January; her remembrance will appear in the next issue of *Loretto Magazine*.

act for the welfare of all



In the foreground, at left, Alicia Ramirez SL helps Mary Kay Brannan SL plant a peace pinwheel. In the background, Stacy Ballard, Living Center activities director, prepares pinwheels for planting near the peace pole by the Living Center residents. The pinwheels are a call to turn weapons into windmills. *Photo: Mary Ann McGivern SL*



Barbara Nicholas SL, left, and Buffy Boesen SL sign the Declaration of Peace in September 2024. Barbara's term as Loretto's president was ending, and Buffy's term was beginning. *Photo: Donna Mattingly SL*

Loretto members tirelessly



Loretto Community members wear sackcloth at a protest on Hiroshima Day at Los Alamos, N.M., in this undated photo. From left are Loretto friend Pavlina, Sharon Palma CoL, Elaine Prevallet SL, Mary Nelson CoL, Anna Koop SL, Eleanor Craig SL, Betty Obal SL, Amelie Starky, Delores Kincaide SL and Rose Annette Liddell SL. *Photo: Loretto Archives*

We are called to be missionaries of peace. ... It means making space in our hearts for all, and believing that differences are not obstacles, that others are our brothers and sisters, and that the peace Jesus brought into the world is meant for all.

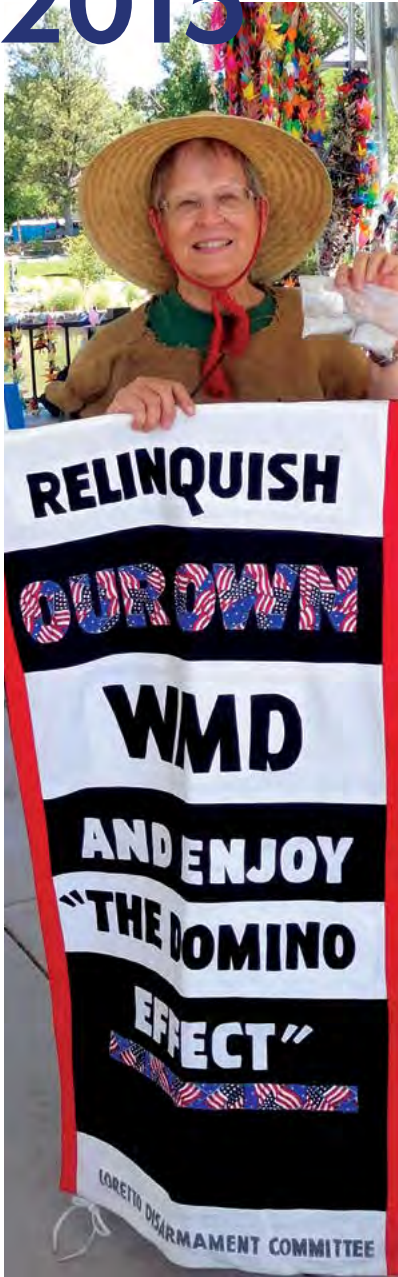
Pope Francis



Loretto members protest the Iraq War in 2003 carrying Loretto banners made by Bob Strobridge CoL. *Photo: Loretto Archives*

pursue justice and peace

2015



Trish Herron CoL wears sackcloth at a demonstration against nuclear weapons at Los Alamos, N.M., in 2015. Loretto members traditionally have joined protests at Los Alamos in August each year to observe the anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Photo: Sandra Hareld CoL

2018



From left, Mary Ann McGivern SL, Susan Classen CoL and Sally Dunne CoL pose with banners made by Bob Strobridge CoL at a School of the Americas protest in November 2018. *Photo: Loretto Archives*



2019



Roberta Hudlow SL carries one of Bob Strobridge's banners at a women's march in 2019. *Photo: Philip Deitch*



2020

True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice.

Martin Luther King Jr.

From left, Martha Crawley CoL, a St. Mary's Academy student holding a Loretto banner and Jeanne Orrben CoL participate in the Martin Luther King Jr. Parade in Denver in 2020.
Staff photo



2024

Loretto friends, members and the Loretto Peace Committees hold a public prayer event in Louisville, Ky., in February 2024 to call for a ceasefire in Gaza. *Photo by Donna Mattingly SL*



Explore the rich story of Loretto's peacemaking history in the [winter 2021 issue](#) of *Loretto Magazine*.

Ceciliana Skees SL celebrates 75 years in Loretto!



Ceciliana Skees SL in the Loretto Motherhouse Guest House where she created a gallery featuring Loretto members' art. Photo: Donna Mattingly SL

By Christina Manweller

Ceciliana Skees SL is grateful for the opportunity she's had to positively impact lives during her 75 years as a Sister of Loretto. She says, "I worked with very young people, very poor people, mostly in the West End of Louisville, Ky., and I helped them have a better life."

In fact, for nearly 40 years, Ceciliana and those who worked with her significantly improved lives. In 1968, with the support of Loretto, she took responsibility for St. Benedict School in Louisville's West End, an area with a primarily Black population burdened with poverty.

Determined that this school would not fall into disrepair and fail as so many had, and learning that federal support for private non-denominational schools in poor neighborhoods required that the program include daycare, she restructured the school to serve younger children. In 1971, the St. Benedict Center for Early Childhood Education was licensed to serve children as young as 6 weeks. She says, "We took very good care of the children, gave them a safe place to be and made life better for them." Over and over, visitors delighted in the sight of such happy children.

In 1994, the archdiocese sold the land and building, and Ceciliana set out to raise funds. A vacant lot was donated and a cutting-edge building was constructed to maximize energy efficiency (see plaque at right).

Over the years, Ceciliana and her team expanded St. Benedict's to offer care to more children. As a 2007 article in Loretto's newsletter, *Interchange*, shared when she retired as administrator, "The center offers 145 children, 2 weeks of age to 12 years, an exemplary, caring program designed to

maximize their growth in learning and self-respect." It was hard to leave, she said upon retirement, "because these are my children." Ceciliana's legacy lives on as St. Benedict's thrives, continuing to serve predominately low-income Black families.

After retiring, Ceciliana moved to the Loretto Motherhouse in Nerinx, Ky., helping to refurbish homes on the campus. Later she took responsibility for the Guest House, ensuring that Loretto Motherhouse visitors experienced an accommodating, warm and welcoming environment.

Recently Ceciliana again retired, at age 93, after seven years overseeing the Guest House. She says the aspect of Loretto she most treasures is "being with the people who live here. ... We live with a lot of wonderful people."

Congratulations, Ceciliana, on your 75th jubilee!



Above, Ceciliana reads to children at St. Benedict Center in 2007. Below, a plaque displayed at the Center honors Ceciliana. Photos: Peg Jacobs CoL



Justice Fellows live Loretto's spirit of



Justice Fellows met to build community in El Paso last October. Back row, from left, are Jose Gomez, Iris Cano, Alondra Rodriguez, Anamaria Solis, Diana Acosta. Front row, from left, are Arantza de Jesus, Annie Rosenkranz (program director), Christy Busuladzic, Chelsea Le Vey. Not pictured are Araceli Iglesias and Sofia Quinones Segovia. *Photo by Larissa Meza*

By Annie Rosenkranz

Ten Loretto Justice Fellows are currently serving with five placement organizations in the El Paso, Texas, community. During the fall 2024 semester, they contributed 2,500 hours of service to people experiencing food insecurity and/or homelessness, to people in detention centers or migrant shelters, to families in marginalized communities, and more. Our Fellows experience profound learning, transformation and connection within themselves and in community while furthering Loretto mission and values through direct service and community life. As they serve nonprofits in the community, each pursues a degree in social work, political science and/or pre-law. Loretto is proud to support these students. Loretto's spirit of love and service will touch countless others as each Fellow walks their unique life path.



Photo by Larissa Meza

Diana Acosta

Serves at Estrella del Paso

"I'm glad I chose to join the Loretto Justice Fellowship because it has brought me so much joy and fulfillment to share my time and service with other Fellows. It's exciting to meet and discuss our experiences, thoughts and emotions knowing we share similarities. My intentions for this Fellowship year are to grow as a person professionally and personally. I never imagined how difficult life could be for immigrants coming to seek refuge and shelter due to their governments' injustices. I'm glad I can be part of a community to help and advocate for these populations."

service

Christy Busuladzic

Serves at Kelly Center for Hunger Relief

“With Kelly’s Fresh Start Program, we empower clients not just with food security, but we also support them in achieving self-sufficiency goals by meeting each individual where they are. We are able to offer them the skills and resources they need for the ‘Fresh Start’ they aspire to. Each day brings new experiences and challenges, but each encounter with my clients leaves me feeling motivated and powerful. Being a part of the Loretto Justice Fellowship has offered me love, support and self-care that I can take with me into the work I was meant to do in the heart of my community.”



Photo by Larissa Meza



Photo by Larissa Meza

Iris Cano

Serves at Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center

“My time with Las Americas has been deeply moving, not only because the detainees are in vulnerable, often desperate situations, but also because many, like me, came to the United States in pursuit of better opportunities. Hearing about the severe challenges they face while detained — ranging from being served spoiled food to harassment, assault and dehumanization — has profoundly impacted me. Witnessing clients experience panic attacks due to constant mistreatment has underscored the stark privilege I hold, even as an immigrant. Yet, amidst these difficult encounters, there are moments of profound gratitude. Knowing that my role supports these individuals’ journeys toward a better life is a privilege. Some clients confide that I am the first person they’ve felt safe enough to share their experiences with, which is humbling and rewarding.”

Arantza de Jesus

(continuing Fellow from 2023-2024)

Serves at Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center

“When I joined this Fellowship in 2023, I thought I would gain professional experience, but I gained so much more. I grew professionally, but also personally. I have found a support group, a group where I exchange ideas and projects, a guidance group and most importantly, a family. Every Loretto Community member I have met has made me feel part of the Community. Every time I have had the opportunity to be in space with Loretto it has felt like a religious experience, especially when directed by Annie Rosenkranz. I’m proud and thankful to be a Justice Fellow. I can guarantee that the people I’ve met and experiences I’ve lived during these years have made me the person I am right now. Being here has offered so many opportunities, support and growth. I not only feel more prepared to be a better professional, but also a better person and advocate.”

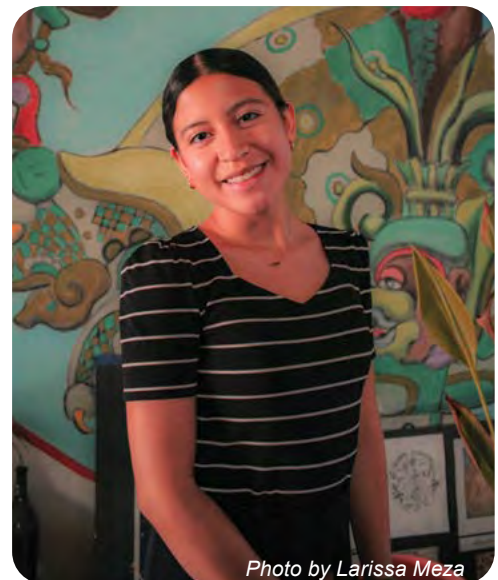


Photo by Larissa Meza



Photo by Larissa Meza

Jose Gomez

Serves at Ciudad Nueva

“One of my intentions for this Fellowship year was to deepen my understanding of immigrant families and the challenges they face. I’ve made significant progress in this area, particularly through my research on youth immigration. My most formative experience so far has been working directly with families and hearing their stories. This has deepened my resolve to advocate for and be involved in social justice. I have identified ways to integrate social justice principles into my work and collaborate with colleagues on initiatives that promote equity and justice.”

Araceli Iglesias

Serves at Abara: Beyond Borders

"My time as a Loretto Justice Fellow has truly been transformative and impactful. I have gained numerous new experiences that have grounded me in the realities of social justice at the community level and beyond. Together with my other Fellows, we share a passion for working toward justice, particularly for migrant populations. I am thankful and blessed to be a part of this incredible Fellowship that has not only given me an outlet to serve my community, but has also created a special environment in which students come together for one common good, which is justice for all."



Photo by Larissa Meza



Photo by Larissa Meza

Chelsea Le Vey

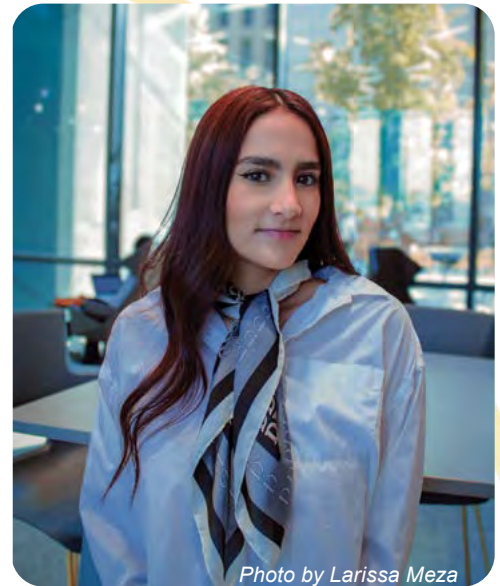
Serves at Estrella del Paso

"My passion for social justice is something that has always been within me; however, I was never in the right place or right time in my life to realize it. That is, until beginning my Fellowship. Something I have found this year is that it is easy when you're just starting out to feel as though it's you alone against the world, but getting to spend time with the other Loretto Justice Fellows, Loretto Community members and members of Loretto Link reminds me that I always have people who care just as much as I do and are willing to help me. As someone who struggled to ask for and accept help from anyone, I feel that this was an important lesson for me to learn and carry on with me."

Sofia Quinones Segovia

Serves at Ciudad Nueva

“My role as a Loretto Justice Fellow working with youth in the Kids Create program at Ciudad Nueva allows me to offer them stability, encouragement and care: a reminder that safe, supportive spaces exist, and that they are deserving of such environments. The trust these children place in me, sharing their struggles and leaning on me as a resource, is something I hold with deep respect. I recognize the impact that even small actions, like listening, offering guidance or being there, can have. Each moment I spend with them reinforces my commitment to show up as someone who sees their potential, not their problems, and encourages them toward a path that avoids conflict and embraces growth.”



Alondra Rodriguez

Serves at Kelly Center for Hunger Relief

“My intentions for my Fellowship year are coming to life as I had envisioned. Both the Fellowship and my service at Kelly opened doors for me to see what I am capable of doing, and have provided learning experiences that have deepened my connection in community and my engagement in collaborative work. There are days when it can be both challenging and heartwarming, but I know that this is the path I was meant to follow. My experiences with the Fellowship and Kelly have been the best. And I will take these experiences, support and opportunities with me as I pursue my long-term goals.”



Anamaria Solis

Serves at Abara: Beyond Borders

“The Loretto Justice Fellowship has empowered me to recognize my voice and agency in shaping the future of my community. It has helped me realize that I belong in policy work — an area that once felt out of reach. Joining the Loretto Justice Fellowship has been crucial in bridging my passion for advocacy with my social work skills (such as community mobilization), setting me on the path toward meaningful, systemic change.”



Read more about the Loretto Justice Fellowship [here](#).

Loretto in Pakistan collaborates



Sisters of Loretto Nasreen Daniel SL (next to a young boy) and Samina Iqbal SL (beside Nasreen) are heartily welcomed to the parish school. The sisters' contributions are of great value in this school serving an industrial neighborhood. *Photo: courtesy Nasreen Daniel SL*

By Nasreen Daniel SL

Our local parish community recently initiated a collaborative effort with the Sisters of Loretto to support the parish boys' school. The school serves more than 450 students with a team of 29 dedicated staff members. Located approximately 30 minutes from our residence, this school primarily educates the children of local factory workers. The neighborhood's industrial nature shapes the students' daily lives, often leaving them with little support at home, as both parents usually work long hours. Recognizing the unique needs of these children, the school provides a daily lunch for all students, which speaks to the compassion at the core of the mission.

On Nov. 4, we were formally introduced to the teaching team. The need for assistance became clear as we learned that many of the teachers have limited qualifications, with some only having completed 10th grade and only two holding bachelor's degrees. Despite their dedication, the teachers require support to enhance their skills in lesson planning, classroom management, student engagement, instructional methodology and communication.

The Sisters of Loretto have a longstanding commitment to education and to nurturing academic and personal growth in students, particularly girls. This new collabora-



It's lunchtime! The parish school provides a free healthy meal to each student. *Photo: courtesy Nasreen Daniel SL*

Rosemary Chinnici SL

March 28, 1942 – Aug. 20, 2024

Sister Rosemary graduated from Loretto Heights College and later from the University of Northern Colorado with a master's in counseling and psychology. She worked as a teacher, rehabilitation counselor and a trauma and disaster counselor. She completed her doctorate and joined her brother Joe Chinnici OFM on the faculty of the Franciscan School of Theology and later at the Starr King School for the Ministry. In retirement, she taught graduate courses, workshops and retreats in several schools and for many communities. She traveled to China three times to meet with Isobel Huang SL. Rosemary's close friend and household companion was Mary Grove. Rosemary died Aug. 20 at Loretto Living Center on the grounds of Loretto Motherhouse in Nerinx, Ky., in the company of her brother and friends.



Mary Ann Cunningham

March 5, 1934 – Oct. 8, 2024

Sister Mary Ann grew up in Kansas City, Mo., and was taught by the Sisters of Loretto whose concern for justice influenced her entering the Community. She asked not "How can we speak out?" but "How can we be silent?" For many years, she edited "CouRAGE," the newsletter of the Loretto Women's Network. Mary Ann always sought to "resist patriarchy." She was involved in anti-war protests during the Vietnam War and worked to change U.S. policy in Central America. She was jailed for civil disobedience during the Rocky Flats protests in Colorado. Her last public protest was in Louisville, Ky., against the war in Gaza on a very cold day at the federal building on Feb. 28, 2024.



Ray Ensman

Jan. 19, 1939 – Nov. 25, 2023

Ray became a Loretto co-member in 1981. Many in Loretto will remember that he was friends with Evelyn Houlihan SL and Jane Kosters CoL. He began his studies for the priesthood at St. Mary's College Seminary near Lebanon, Ky., where he earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy. After further study in theology, Ray was ordained a priest in 1966 for the Toledo, Ohio, diocese. In his earlier years Ray taught in a high school in Lima, Ohio, and then in the seminary in Toledo. Later he was pastor of churches in Tiffin and in Port Clinton in the Toledo diocese. He retired in 1976. Ray will be remembered as a gentle, holy, humble priest. He was soft spoken, a warm and loyal friend, and compassionate to all.



Agnes Marie Hagan

Nov. 27, 1931 – Nov. 7, 2024

Sister Agnes Marie was born in New Haven, Ky., to Mary (Bowling) and George B. Hagan. She joined the Sisters of Loretto in 1952 and was a longtime educator and social worker, serving in Illinois, Texas, California, Missouri and Kentucky. Retiring from teaching, she remained in Louisville, Ky., helping to care for sisters from 1997 to 2017 as a member of the Community Services Department staff at Nazareth Home, a long-term care facility of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth. For many years, she volunteered at St. Boniface Soup Kitchen and St. John's Center for Homeless Men in Louisville. She moved to Loretto Motherhouse in 2023, where she tutored, served as a driver and took part in Motherhouse social activities.



Mary McAuliffe**Aug. 3, 1942 – Oct. 5, 2024**

Sister Mary taught for more than 27 years and also served in parish ministry. She was recognized as a Cherry Creek School District (Denver) teacher of the year, selected by parents and teachers, and recognized as an Apple Educator of the Year. Mary loved teaching. She said she loved the bright light that came into the children's eyes when they got something, and when they could keep it. Mary continued to serve in parish ministry in Denver until she moved to Loretto Motherhouse at the end of 2015. She described life at the Motherhouse as essential and life-giving. What was important to Mary was to be in community and to continue to be of service in whatever role presented itself. She was also a constant companion to the Loretto Living Center's resident dog.

**Patricia McShea Col****Oct. 14, 1934 – Oct. 23, 2024**

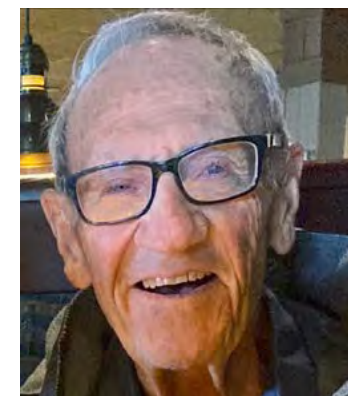
Pat joined the Sisters of Loretto from Louisville, Ky., in 1954. She left vowed membership in 1972 and in 2003 became a Loretto co-member. She was an educator, working in special education. She was involved in the beginning of Havern School in Colorado and designed a special education program for the Littleton, Colo., school system. She married George McShea, who later became a co-member; they are the parents of Joyanne and Michael. Pat continued teaching in the Denver Catholic school system as an elementary teacher and was an administrator at an inner city school with a Hispanic population. Later in their retirement years Pat and George were involved in social justice work. Pat died at home in Littleton. George and Joyanne were at her side.

**Ann Wall Richards Col****July 16, 1934 – Dec. 21, 2024**

In her autobiography for Loretto co-membership Ann wrote that formative influences in her life were growing up at Running Fox Farm outside Philadelphia and attending a Catholic boarding school taught by the Religious of the Sacred Heart. Ann wrote that Dan Walsh, philosophy professor at Manhattanville College in New York, was an important influence in her college years. Dan had been Thomas Merton's mentor at Columbia College and introduced Ann to Merton through the book "The Seven Story Mountain." In 1979, she and her family moved to Denver. She sought out the Thomas Merton Center and found Mary Luke Tobin SL and Loretto. From then on Ann was involved with Loretto and became a co-member in 2017. Through her many years in Pennsylvania and Colorado, Ann taught school.

**Leonard Urban Col****Nov. 6, 1931 – Sept. 26, 2024**

Leonard became a co-member along with his brother Peter Urban and Kathy Santopietro on Nov. 4, 1976. At that time, Leonard, Peter, Kathy and Elizabeth Dyer SL worked in team ministry in Frederick, Mead and Erie, Colo. He was ordained a priest in 1956. For more than 30 years he worked in ministry and education and authored two books as well as publishing a weekly article in the Denver Catholic Register. Together with Elizabeth Dyer, he cofounded John XXIII Parish in Fort Collins. After ministry as a Catholic priest, he became a family therapist and married Elizabeth Cushman in 1991. He continued to be a teacher, spiritual leader and mentor over the remaining years of his life. Leonard died at his home in Fort Collins, Colo.



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

Memorials and Tributes of Honor

August 2024 – December 2024

In honor of:
Requested by:

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

Judith Baenen*

Frances Hopp

Francetta Barbera SL

John Matthews

Marie Bauman's 92nd birthday

Maureen Flanigan*

Buffy Boesen SL

Bob and Christie Boesen

Joe and Joann Furay

Mary Kay Schilken

Rose Oswald Bradley and Larry Bradley

Laurence Bradley

Johanna Brian SL

Sally Farley

Stephanie Harris

Mary Nelson*

Bobbie Rouben

Claudia Calzetta SL

Kathleen Wright

Denise Ann Clifford SL

William and Stella Clifford

Rosemary Filippone

Eileen and Jeff Fostey

Loretto and Bill Peterson

Ershel and Jan Redd Jr.

Donna Day SL

Dennis Cuddihee

Irene Doody

Quinn Ankrum

Antoinette Doyle SL

Susan T. Congalton

Cynthia L. Giguere-Unrein

Barbara and Robert Havira

Jeanne Dueber SL

Stephen Ferry

Dr. and Mrs. William M. Fogarty Jr.

Bernice Strawn*

Benedicta Feeney SL

Margaret E. Keane

Mary Ann Figlino CSJ

Nicole R. Blessinger

JoAnn Gates*

Thomas D. Freeman and Douglas J.

Klocke

Dana Walker

Mary Ann Gisondi

Joan C. Palazzotto

Jeannine Gramick SL

Rosemary and James Jepson

John M. Le Bedda II

Jennifer S. Morgan

Mary Rock

Rev. Paul K. Thomas

Mary Watros

Bee Hall

Jessica Ballard

Mary Jo Highland

Mary A. Highland

Kelsie Hildreth

Angela M. Hildreth

Mary Lou Sheehy Hill

Jo Ann Rice*

Eileen Kersgieter SL

Barbara Fagan

Regina and Steven Hermann

Fr. Marty Lally

Fr. Elbert Chilson III

Ken Legenza

Patricia Legenza

Allison Lemons*

Corliss Thalley

Loretto

Loretto Academy, Kansas City, Mo., class of 1973

Mary and Scott Zweifel

Loretto Heights College faculty and staff, 1963-1967

Michele A. Saad

Loretto High School, class of 1962

Judy Mattingly

Janet Reddington

Loretto High School, class of 1964

Nancy and David Bash

Sisters of Loretto who worked in Bolivia

Ximena Ferguson

Marilyn Rhodes

All the Sisters who taught me!

Sharon L. O'Brien

Sisters of Loretto and Community

Diann Nestel and Kim Vance

Camille Bash

My teachers at St. Mary's Academy

Mary T. Yelenick, class of 1972

Jeanne, Connie and Maureen, my sisters

Anton and Mary Lubeley

Barbara Nicholas SL

Mary Vincent Breeck

Patricia Welsh Byrnes

Pam Catlett

Rose Grenough Nett

Jeanne Sabet

Mary Ellen Nohalty Schreck

Sharon Shepard

Vicki Lynn Gammel Stanley

Victoria Birchler Ullrich

Kenwyn Boyle Wise

Rita Yates

Valerie Novak SL

Nancy L. Hillhouse

Lydia Peña SL

Dr. Steve Atchley

Frank and Gretchen Delaney III

Carla Pena-Gaiser

Melissa Pena MacEachran

Kam and Michael Martin

Robert Peña

Margaret Utz

Alicia T. Perez

Ruth and Ray Perez

Elaine Marie Prevallet SL

Dora Elizabeth Cash

Thomas and Peggy Derieg

Patricia and Anthony Drypolcher

Marianne Lewis

Carlen Maddux Sr.

Mary Catherine Rabbitt SL

Sarah J. Maresh*

Anthony Mary Sartorius SL

Virginia St-Cyr

Mary Schenkenberg

Julie C. Sheridan

David Schoeni's family

David Schoeni

Barbara Schulte SL

Lynn and Nick Davis

Carol Rossi

Agnes Ann Schum SL

David and Deborah George
Dugan McGinley

Ceciliana Skees SL

Sandra and Thomas Tokarski

Cathy Smith SL

Mary Nelson*

Joan Spero SL

Joan Kidnay

Marlene Spero SL

Lynn and Nick Davis
Carol Rossi

Eric Stark

Lisa and Paul Hendricks

Marie Lourde Steckler SL

Jason Steckler and family

Kathy Sullivan SL

Kathleen Wright

Mary Swain SL

Donna Roth Cox
Margaret E. Keane
Thomas D. Freeman and Douglas J. Klocke

Elizabeth and Bill Mariner

Alan and Peggy Miller

Linda Schnieders

David Schoeni

Gerry and Pat Welch

Kathleen Tighe SL

Jackson Bradt

Alfred Frey

Loretto Academy, Kansas City, Mo.,
class of 1964

Kathleen Tighe SL, cont.

Catherine I. Madden*

Sharon Mickelson

Kathleen J. O'Renack

Peggy and Dennis Rabbitt

Peter Tshu's Family

Juliana Kan

Kathleen Vonderhaar SL

Elizabeth and Bill Mariner

Emerson Miles Watkins

Steve Watkins

Mary Wentker

Mari Jo Lynch



In memory of: Requested by:

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

Pauline Albin SL

Marshall Bradley
Donna Roth Cox
Patricia and Anthony Drypolcher
Michael R. Hartley

Ann Genevieve SL

Jane Barry-Davis

Guadalupe (Lupe) Arciniega SL

Ted and Martha Groene
Fred and Rebecca Kowalewski
Catherine I. Madden*
Michael Talamantes

Sandra Ardoyno SL

Susan D. Evans

Patricia Rogers Bale

Anne Doll

Donald and Rose Bandy

Sharon Kotok

Barbara Ann Barbato SL

Mary M. Bannister
David Burkhart
Donna Marie Campbell
Kathianne Crane
Elizabeth Dober
Patricia Froeckmann
Jean and Conal Furay
Katherine Traxler Goldring
Alice and John Lucchesi
Alice Sargent
Michael and Michele Sawicki
Mary Ann Wyrasz

Alice Beam

Catherine Means

Martha Belke SL

David and Susan Bischof

Dolores Bernauer

Mary Jean Bernauer King

Mary Bickel

Sue and Bernard Ellert
James "Terry" Gates
Mary Jane Schutzius
Lori Smith

M.J. and Lorena Bland

Shirley and Louis Thomas

Veronica Lipary Bonino, Loretto**Heights College, 1969**

Barbara Lopez Martin

Edwardine Boone SL

Rose Mary and Tom Wargel

Mary Grace Boone SL

Mary Rogers

Rose Mary and Tom Wargel

Rosita Boone SL

Rose Mary and Tom Wargel

Srs. Bernadette, Mary Martin and**Mary Regis Bowling SL**

Rosemary Rosendale

Kevin Bradt SJ

Henry and Margaret Ferraioli

Mary Roger Brennan SL

Anne Kohlman

Robert and Elaine Brennan

Anton and Mary Lubeley

Mary Denis Bruck SL

Betty and Helen Bruck

Dorothy Bullock

Tom Bullock Jr.

M. Guadalupe F. Burciaga

Margarita Kanavy

Bishop Charles A. Buswell

Rev. Michael De Sciose*

Kay Carlew SL

Ellen Castille

Southall Pharmacy

John and Marie Carroll

Joan C. Palazzotto

Alyce Cavanaugh

Thomas Lawler

Jean Carmel Cavanaugh SL

Barbara Buettner

Valerie P. L. Chan

Janice Chan

Thomas Chew

Monica Chew

Rosemary Chinnici SL

M. Virginia May

Vivian Watson

Ed Clute

Charles and Gail Clute

Mary L. Clute

Charles and Gail Clute

Alda Collaco

Theresa M. Da Silva

Joseph and Alice Collins

Margaret Collins Shields

Mary Conter SL

Sharlene Piper Hower

Mary Campbell Moore Coorsen

Jeaninne and Charles Sandlin

Ann Carita Corbett SL

Charles and Frances Brown

Mary Ann Coyle SL

David A. Dwyer

Mary Ann Cunningham SL

Linda Beaven

Frances Candlin

Dora Elizabeth Cash

David A. Dwyer

Frances Fryberger

Michael R. Hartley

Catherine I. Madden*

Suzanne Reasbeck

Mary Helen Sandoval*

Jeanne Cushing SL

Walter W. Sullivan III

Marilyn Cusick

Dorothy Cusick

Jose Da Silva

Theresa M. Da Silva

Aline Dalton SL

Theresa and John Smith

Kay DeMarea SL

Suzanne Reasbeck

Marian Disch SL

Daria and Joseph Conran

Jeannette Marie Donnelly SL

Walter W. Sullivan III

Rose Patricia Doyle SL

Mary Elmira Smith Wilkey

Dallas Edwards

Patricia Edwards

Rosalie Elliott SL

Janyce White Angel

Margaret Grace Elsey SL

Ruth Billings

Mary Ely SL

Mary Ann Sullivan

Elsie Bourke Ewing

Anne Hickey

Ann Miller Farmer

Linda K. McMillan

Mary Jayne Fassel

Diane Fassel*

Ann Faughnan

Mary Watros

Rev. William Fichteman

Sharon Shepard

Martha Fly*

David Schoeni

Samuel French

Shawn O'Donnell

Steve Fundock

Elaine Skarbowski

Ann Francis Gleason SL

Margaret E. Keane

Carol J. Mattingly

Mary Lou Gomez-Leon*

Sandy Gomez-Leon

Susan Haisley

Esther Marie Goodrow SL

Dr. John D. Bell

Susan K. Pelz

Robert Anne Greenslade SL

Rosemary Leake

Gondina Greenwell SL

Elizabeth and Bill Mariner

Grennan Sisters

Charles and Joan Grennan

Jacqueline Grennan-Wexler*

Elizabeth Burrows

Ted Gruen

Alyssa Iaia and John Carr

Rollo Gurs

Doris Gurs

Agnes Marie Hagan SL

Diane Aguilar

Linda Billingsley

Tom and Ann Bizzell

Ann Hayden

Ellen and Dominic Grisanti

Fred Hagan

Agnes Jury

Jane M. Lockard

Lisa, John, Jerry, Kathleen and

Margie Ann McHale

Aggie and Pat Noonan

Suzanne Reasbeck

Mary Katherine Hammett SL

Dr. Marilyn Montenegro

Greg Harris

Carol Harris

Marie Noel Hebert SL

James C. Hebert

Eileen Marie Heckman SL

Louise Rahll

John and Susan Reuter

Dianna Higgins

Stephanie Harris

Joseph Highland

Mary A. Highland

Gabriel Mary Hoare SL

Barbara Buettner

Deborah Holt

Mary and Scott Zweifel

Evelyn Houlihan SL

Isabel Derr

Pat, Jane and Margaret Hummel

Ellen and Dominic Grisanti

Rita Maureen Hurtt SL

Theresa and Daniel Hampton

Carol Elaine Johnson

Donna Mae Johnson

Cecily Jones SL

Griffith and Loreen Jones

Marcia Martinez

Patricia Anne Kaiser

Valorie Becker

James Karslake

Allison* and Don Lemons

James and Margaret Keane

Margaret E. Keane

Rosemary Keegan SL

Allen and Margaret Keegan

Jean Kelley SL

Patricia Kelley

David McCarthy

Carolyn Kelly

Donna Kelly

Margaret Rose Knoll SL

Sr. Janet L. Ballard SCN

Madeleine Marie Koch SL

Catherine M. Czys

Martha Ann Koch SL

Catherine M. Czys

Jane Kusters*

Isabel Derr

Louis Marie Kroeger SL

Larry and Mary-Mel Kroeger

Kay Lane SL

Alfred Frey

Mary Leibman*

Rose Marie Hayden

Gaetana Angela Lenox*

James Lenox*

Patricia Ann Lewis

Marie Ego SL

Rose Annette Liddell SL

Barbara Dolan Meinert, M.Div.

Paschalita Linehan SL

Kathy and Tim Farrell

Loretto**All my Loretto teachers grade school to college**

Jana Clark

Loretto High School class of 1961 deceased members

Barbara Heffernan

St. Cronan Grade School, St. Louis, Mo.

Paul and Debra Schiavo

Sisters at Loretto Heights College

Mary Jean and Rodney Brod

Kathleen Cronan

Caroline Hasegawa

Jackie Koroshetz

Sisters of Loretto at St. Mary's Academy

Charles and Theresa Arbogast

Sisters who taught at St. Ann's Arlington, Va.

Charles and Kathleen Titterton

Sisters at Webster College

Sara G. Manning
Mary Frances Lottes SL
Patricia and Anthony Drypolcher
Dave Lovell
Sandra King Lovell
Consuelo Luevanos
Hiram and Martha Villegas
Mary Ellen Bugas Luttenegger
Dr. Thomas J. Luttenegger
Robert Marie MacRobert SL
Lt. Col. James Van Scotter
Karen Madden SL
Jeanne Sabet
**Srs. Karen, Loretto Anne
and Theresa Madden SL**
Mrs. Rosemary Leberer
Patricia Jean Manion SL
Beverley Ballantine
Karen and Mike Loden
Rosemary Mason
Josephine Marie Marino
Susan and Vince Marino
Estella Mary
Thomas Lawler
Gabriel Mason SL
Karen and Mike Loden
Eugene Matern
Dorothy C. Matern
Jean L. May
Marilyn Butler
Jean Storch May
Paul and Sue Kuerzi
Mary McAuliffe SL
M. Virginia May
Sheila Zipse
Edwin Mary McBride SL
Susan T. Congalton
Margaret Couvillon
Michael and Sheila Sise
Patricia Eve Singer McCracken
Nancy Singer Levicki
John McCracken Jr.
Penny McMullen SL
Diana Castro
Patricia and Anthony Drypolcher
Mary Cornelia McNellis SL
LaVerne G. Saxbury
James A. McRae
Maria McRae
Patricia McShea*
Maureen Flanigan*
Cheryl and Jim Lavan
Rose Clare McWhorter SL
Gloria W. Tabacchi
Mary Ann Milton
James T. Milton
Grace Lyons Moberly
Margaret Dixon

Ann Mueller SL
Mark Currington
Robert and Linda Mueller
Jane Frances Mueller SL
Mark Currington
Robert and Linda Mueller
Angela Murphy SL
Ann Macri
Susan Murray
Michael Tevlin
Dianne Marie Myers
Marguerite Shulhafer
Margaret Nelson
Margarita Covarrubias
Loretta Neusel
Marian Hennessy
Maida Neusel
Marian Hennessy
Mary Naomi O'Meara SL
Mary E. Jaros
Aurelia Ottersbach SL
Carol J. Mattingly
Ramon Perez Sr.
Ruth and Ray Perez
Rosalie Marie Phillips SL
Dorothy and Randall Dean
Suzanne J. Stauder
Jerry and Jackie Steverson
Raymond Steverson Jr.
Ann Monica Pierce SL
Linda Meir
Vicki Quatmann SL
Asherah Cinnamon
Robert and Aidea Sluyter
Catherine and Gerald Stoverink
Felicitas Quinlivan SL
Neil Maloney
Jean Louise Rafferty SL
Sandra Graham
Sarah Rafferty Jimenez
Howard Ratcliff
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Donate in honor of, or in memory of, a loved one or a cherished Loretto member:
www.lorettocommunity.org/donate



Daffodils bloom at Loretto Motherhouse in spring 2023. Photo: Donna Mattingly SL

Honoring a Legacy of Pioneering Spirit: The Ann Rhodes Legacy Circle



Dear Loretto Friends,

In 1812, Mother Ann Rhodes became the first superior of the Friends of Mary at the Foot of the Cross. Though her leadership lasted fewer than six months, Mother Ann's pioneering spirit left an impact that would affect generations. It also created a legacy that has flourished for more than two centuries and made a tangible impact in the lives of thousands.

As one of the first religious communities founded in the United States, the sisters began educating children of their frontier settlement in Kentucky. By 1823 they ventured west, founding some of the first schools west of the Mississippi River and later establishing missions in China, South America and Pakistan. Today, Loretto's pioneering legacy continues through social justice work on a global scale, educational ministries and the commitment of sisters and co-members to bring the healing presence of God into the world.

To honor this pioneering legacy, we are excited to announce the establishment of the Ann Rhodes Legacy Circle. Loretto has long been the beneficiary of many who have chosen to remember us in their estate planning. This special Circle is a way to recognize those commitments and allow our generous donors a convenient way to facilitate them. By designating a gift to Loretto in your will, trust or other planned-giving avenue, you can ensure that the

Loretto Community will continue its vital work; your legacy will live on, carrying forward Loretto's spirit and values. Legacy gifts play a transformative role in sustaining Loretto's ministries and supporting our sisters, as well as making a lasting impact. Just as Mother Ann Rhodes set the stage for an enduring legacy of service, your thoughtful planning helps Loretto to continue in its firm commitment to make the world a better place.

To learn more about the Ann Rhodes Legacy Circle and how you can join, contact our development office. Together, let's honor the pioneering spirit of Mother Ann Rhodes by supporting the work of the Loretto Community.

Please contact us for more information:

vnesmith@lorettocommunity.org

(270) 431-0100, ext. 5102

We are grateful for your support.

Virginia Nesmith
Development Director



Photo: Loretto Archives

Above: Students weave potholders at the Santa Fe (N.M.) Opportunity School in 1948. Examples of students' sewing and embroidery work are displayed on the wall. Founded by Mary Harold Savage SL in 1937, the school offered training in practical skills until 1969. See the [winter 2022-2023 issue](#) of *Loretto Magazine* for more on Loretto's history in New Mexico.

Right: Mary Peter Bruce SL teaches children in Loretto's school in La Paz, Bolivia, in 1961. Learn about Loretto's work in South America in the [fall 2023 issue](#) of *Loretto Magazine*.



Photo: Loretto Archives



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Loretto stands up for justice in El Paso. From left, Kathleen Corbett SL, Jackie Diego Medina CoL, Jane German CoL, Ophelia Becera (friend of Loretto) and Annie Rosenkranz (Loretto Justice Fellowship director) pause during a march for human dignity in March 2024. Photo: courtesy Annie Rosenkranz