



SISTERS OF
THE HOLY
FAMILY OF
NAZARETH
// VOL 12 //
// NO 2 //
SUMMER
2018

Nazareth CONNECTIONS

FAMILY IS THE HEART OF OUR MISSION

Celebrate our new leadership

STORY ON PAGE 4



Let us continue

TO CELEBRATE

During our National Assembly in early August, we were blessed with wonderful opportunities to commemorate important events in Holy Family Province and in the lives of our sisters. Together, we joyfully celebrated the silver, golden, and diamond jubilees of our sisters who have served so faithfully for so many years (see “Jubilees” on page 8).

We also prayerfully honored the memories and lives of our sisters whom God has called to Himself during these past two years (see “In Memoriam” on pages 16).

We attentively listened to and acknowledged the work that has been done regarding our province plan. We expressed our gratitude and love to the members of our leadership team who served the province so well for the past six years: Sr. Barbara Jean Wojnicki, Sr. Catherine Fedewa, Sr. Kathleen Ann Stadler, Sr. Irena Mika, Sr. Michele Vincent Fisher and Sr. Rita Fanning.

And then, we celebrated the installation of the new leadership team. Our sisters welcomed me as the new provincial superior along with Sr. Michele Collins as Assistant Provincial Superior/Councilor, Sr. Mary Ellen Gemmell as Provincial Secretary/Councilor, Sr. Maria Magdalena Rybak as Provincial Councilor, and Sr. Irena Mika in her second term as Provincial Treasurer.

As the new leadership team goes forth, we must continue to celebrate.

First and foremost, each day we must celebrate our vocation and what that means to each of us personally.

As Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, we know that our vocation to religious life is a gift from God.

He has chosen us to bring His good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, to restore sight to the blind, to lift up the downtrodden, and to heal the broken-hearted.



Sr. Kathleen during her installation as the new provincial superior

Along with our sisters, I encourage you, our friends of Nazareth, to celebrate the gift of your vocation whether it be religious, married, consecrated, or single life.

Together, let's celebrate the God who lives in and through us. May the joy that radiates from us inspire those who are discerning their vocation and those who are seeking God's guidance in their lives.

Secondly, each day we must celebrate our life in the communities in which we live.

During recent province meetings, our sisters came together to create a statement that encourages us “to foster patterns and interactions that express respect, care, gratitude and love for one another.”

*MESSAGE CONTINUED
ON PAGE 4...*

HOW ARE YOU CALLED TO LOVE?

We invite you to pray with us, to listen to God's call with us and to love with us as we find God in ordinary experiences. Learn more about our community life, our ministries and our mission at nazarethcsfn.org/join-us. Or contact Sr. Emmanuela Le, CSFN, National Vocation Director, at 972-641-4496 x111 or vocations@nazarethcsfn.org.





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Editor:
Tammy Townsend Kise

Proofreaders:
Sr. Clare Marie Kozicki
Sr. Jude Carroll
Sr. Lucille Madura

Editorial Board:
Sr. Angela Szczawinska
Sr. Barbara Frances Samp
Sr. Carol Szott
Sr. Jude Carroll
Sr. Kathleen Ann Stadler
Sr. Lucille Madura
Sr. Marcelina Mikulska
Sr. Marcella Louise Wallowicz
Sr. Mary Louise Swift
Sr. Teresilla Kolodziejczyk
Katherine Barth

Design/Print:
McDaniels Marketing

Questions, comments, suggestions?
Please contact:
Communications Department
Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth
310 N. River Road,
Des Plaines, IL 60016
847-298-6760, x144
ttownsend@nazarethcsfn.org

nazarethcsfn.org
facebook.com/csfn.usa
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Contents

LEADERSHIP

4 Celebrate our new provincial leadership team

MINISTRY

12 A lifetime of influence

REFLECTION

6 God took me at my word

IN MEMORIAM

16 Sr. M. Annella Kipa
Sr. M. Anthony Novak

2018 JUBILARIANS

8 Sr. Beata Czul
Sr. Marguerite Therese Maguire
Sr. Mary Louise Swift
Sr. Yvette Ortiz
Sr. Daniela Bronka
Sr. Margaret DeSales O'Connor
Sr. Francesca Witkowska

DEVELOPMENT

18 Thank you from our development office

ON THE COVER:

The new Holy Family Province Leadership Team leaves the installation Mass at Nazareth Academy High School in Philadelphia. Walking with them are Mother Jana Zawieja, General Superior, and Sr. Angela Marie Mazzeo, General Councilor, who were in attendance from Rome.

Celebrate

OUR NEW PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP TEAM



We are pleased to announce our new provincial leadership team installed on August 5, 2018 during our National Assembly held at Holy Family University in Philadelphia.

Sr. Kathleen Maciej, Provincial Superior, entered the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth in 1973 and previously served as principal at St. Adalbert Catholic Academy in Elmhurst, NY.

Sr. Michele Collins, Assistant Provincial Superior/Councilor, entered the community in 1959. Her ministries have included serving as Executive Director of Nazareth Global Missions and Assistant Executive Director of the Nazareth Family Foundation.

Sr. Mary Ellen Gemmell, Provincial Secretary/Councilor, entered the community in 1970. She has served as an adjunct Spanish instructor at Holy

Family University in Philadelphia and a Spanish teacher at St Katherine of Siena School, also in Philadelphia.

Sr. Maria Magdalena Rybak, Councilor, entered the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth in 1995. She previously ministered as a charge nurse in the intensive care unit at Presence Holy Family Medical Center in Des Plaines, IL.

Sr. Irena Mika, Provincial Treasurer, served as treasurer and councilor with the previous leadership. She was elected to serve another term as treasurer. She entered the community in 1985.

Please pray for our new leadership team and our province as we are called by God to travel forward together on our journey to spread the Kingdom of His Love.



- Leadership (l to r): Sr. Michele Collins, Assistant Provincial Superior/Councilor; Sr. Maria Magdalena Rybak, Provincial Councilor; Sr. Kathleen Maciej, Provincial Superior; Sr. Irena Mika, Provincial Treasurer; Sr. Mary Ellen Gemmell, Provincial Secretary/Councilor
- Sr. Mary Ellen with Sr. Angela Szczawinska
- Sr. Kathleen speaks with sisters during the National Assembly
- Sr. Maria Magdalena greets Sr. Barbara Ann Medvesky
- Sr. Kathleen with Mother Jana Zawieja, Superior General
- Sr. Michele with Sr. Kathleen during the installation liturgy

MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2...

The statement clearly expresses our sisters' intense desire to create communities of love and hope which is made possible by acknowledging and respecting our similarities and differences, by being present to others with a listening heart, by having the courage to speak honestly in difficult situations, by forgiving and loving each other.

I invite each of you to join with us in fostering respect and creating communities of love and hope among the individuals you encounter in your daily life. In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I." Let us strive each day to acknowledge the good that God has created in each person and to recognize His presence in our midst.

Finally, each day we must celebrate our call to mission and mercy.

We are living during a challenging yet life-giving and exciting time in the Church and in the world. The Church is calling forth evangelizers to create a more missionary and merciful Church. Let us take the initiative to go out to others, to walk with the poor, the homeless, the immigrant, and the outcast. Let us go forth proclaiming God's boundless mercy and love. Our charism for the family is what the Church and the world are most in need of today. Let us embrace the opportunities that await us with a spirit of service, compassion, and mercy.

Let us continue to celebrate!

Lovingly in JMJ,
Sister Kathleen Maciej
Provincial Superior

God took me at my word

by Sr. Mary Louise Swift, CSFN

Fifty years doing anything provides memories and graces that shape a life. And having the person of Jesus as a companion is a certain recipe for my growing in all sorts of ways.

I've been on the move since childhood, growing up near winding country roads interspersed with farms, forests and small towns with wildflower gardens. The beauty and tragedy in the pastures and the daily opportunity to commune with nature and question why, led me to speak often to the Lord Jesus, and anyone else who had the patience and humor to share their wisdom with me.

As I moved from parents to aunts and uncles and other relatives, I carried with me a lot of country attitudes and a bit of sass along with the desire to explore the world that enamored my relatives. I never knew who would show up with their life experiences at our kitchen table for supper. It seemed to me that if they were born in another land, spoke a different language, believed in a different faith, had cultural differences from ours, then they were the first to be invited to pull up a chair and share a meal and a story with us.





I became fascinated with the idea of being an adopted daughter of the world. Differences didn't bother my family, because we met one another face to face around the table. Through this "table talk," my sense of being called to get out on the road and visit distant places was born. Since my faith life seemed pretty full and all inclusive, I told God when I was 12 what I intended to do with my life. I'd be a missionary and, yes, bear hardships for the Lord. And, in the end, the part of

Their spirit of simplicity and family love impressed and drew me, and led me to think about becoming a sister.

the world I would go to would know Jesus and would be converted because He loved them and I would love them. All they had to do was to love us back. Throughout high school, my sense of compassion for the poor and my drive to stand up for the defenseless grew, even though I often forgot my missionary promise to the Lord.

Fast forward to my university days. I met, was taught by and studied with our Sisters. Their spirit of simplicity and family love impressed and drew me, and led me to think about becoming a sister. Recalling my

desire to head out to distant lands for Christ, I eventually applied to various missionary communities. As an afterthought, I said, "Why not apply to Nazareth too?" In my mind, I had already decided the first community to accept me would be where I would go. As you can see, Nazareth said yes first which left me with a dilemma: how would I get to be a missionary if I remained in the very spot where I entered religious life?

Then, it happened. After one and a half days into my new mission in Philadelphia, God came through in a wondrous way. I joined my family for a vacation in Puerto Rico and through unexpected circumstances ended up staying there for thirteen years. From the start, God took me at my word. Since then, I've ministered in Florida, Rome and Poland. I have companioned novices, ministered in parishes in and around Philadelphia, was part of a 2% initiative and ministered in Fort Worth, TX. I now find myself in Grand Prairie, TX at Nazareth Retreat Center. It's been quite a ride these 50



years! God's care for and belief in me has lifted me out of many inner and external dangers and set me down in the very places with folks who could show me where to grow more in wisdom and grace. How could I not be known by my Mystery, Mary Louise of Jesus, Present and Provident?*

**It is the tradition of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth that each sister choose a mystery of the Christian faith most significant to her life. That mystery follows her name (ex. Sr. Mary Louise of Jesus, Present and Provident). The foundress of the Congregation, Blessed Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd, began this practice by choosing Jesus the Good Shepherd as her mystery. The custom continues today throughout the Congregation.*

- Sr. Mary Louise sharing a reflection
- Sr. Mary Louise presenting at the Nazareth Retreat Center
- Sr. Mary Louise celebrating her jubilee



SR. BEATA CZYL

Diamond Jubilee – 75 years

Entered June 20, 1943

Grand Prairie, TX

Three years ago, in an interview for CSFN “Mission Moments,” Sr. Beata recalled one of her “most memorable convent experiences and greatest joys in life.” During the early 1980’s, she asked Mother Celeste, Superior General of the Congregation at the time, to send at least two sisters from Poland to Texas. “I promised Mother that the Province would educate and care for their needs,” she said.

The first sister arrived in 1986 with many others to follow over the next two decades, including the recently re-elected Provincial Treasurer, Sr. Irena Mika, who fondly recalls Sr. Beata’s love of gardening, especially growing roses. “Her roses are so fragrant,” said Sr. Irena who formerly lived in Grand Prairie, TX with Sr. Beata. Sr. Beata would jokingly warn her not to smell the roses too much because she might take away the smell.

Sr. Beata served as Provincial Treasurer in Grand Prairie, TX from 1995 to 2007 and taught for 30 years in the Chicago area, Texas, North Dakota and Indiana. In her closing comments for her “Mission Moments” interview, Sr. Beata said, “I thank God for the gift of these wonderful sisters in my life and our Holy Family Province.”



SR. MARGUERITE THERESE MAGUIRE

Golden Jubilee – 50 years

Entered September 8, 1968

Philadelphia, PA

The CSFN family spirit that she experienced while living in the dorms at Holy Family College (now University) drew Sr. Marguerite Therese to enter the community. But, the seed of her religious vocation was planted many years earlier by the Sisters of Charity who taught her in elementary school. It was also in those early years when she was inspired by St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Today, Sr. Marguerite Therese ministers to our retired sisters. “I have always loved working with the elderly,” she said. “This probably dates back to my childhood and the loving relationship with my grandparents.”

Reflecting on the 12 years she spent working at a nursing home, she said, “I thought I was giving so much to the patients I cared for. Gradually, I realized I was receiving a greater gift from them. They shared with me a wisdom of heart and soul which they had gained through their suffering and their living of life to the fullest. I have been blessed!”



SR. MARY LOUISE SWIFT

Golden Jubilee – 50 years

Entered September 8, 1968

Grand Prairie, TX

Often seen with a camera in her hand and a smile on her face, Sr. Mary Louise currently directs workshops and retreats at Nazareth Retreat Center in Grand Prairie, TX. Her sense of humor and creativity have shined in various ministries through the years, including religious formation, novice director, and spiritual director.

While she was inspired by the CSFNs who taught her at Holy Family University, Sr. Mary Louise was not initially drawn to join the community. She saw herself more as a missionary sister who would “head out to distant lands for Christ.” God’s vision for her led her not only to becoming a CSFN but also to serving in Puerto Rico for 13 years.

The most rewarding aspect of religious life for Sr. Mary Louise continues to be “God’s providential care revealed in Jesus and expressed in the Hebrew words ‘emet and hesed’ [truth and love].” She explained, “God provides a faithful, steadfast presence and availability, a tender mercy, caring about our needs and an unconditional love which set us all free to become our truest selves.”

(Pictured, left, with Sr. Francesca Witkowska, right)



SR. YVETTE ORTIZ

Golden Jubilee – 50 years

Entered September 8, 1968

Philadelphia, PA

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Sr. Yvette attributes her attraction to religious life to the faith-filled family environment in which she lived, as well as to the caring and nurturing ways of the various religious she encountered while growing up. Sr. Yvette was seven years old when one of her cousins entered religious life. She remembers clearly the longing and emotions she experienced when she visited her cousin at the motherhouse of the Sisters of Mercy in New York a year later.

Drawn to the contemplative life, both by her Spanish heritage and studies of the Carmelite mystics, Sr. Yvette was unexpectedly led by God's grace into the mystery of Nazareth – a mystery that touched both the family dimension so important to her, as well as the surrender of one's whole being to God and to others in communion and service.

Sr. Yvette acknowledges that in the end everything is grace – God's abundant, mysterious, transforming grace leading one's heart to praise and gratitude for all.



SR. DANIELA BRONKA

Silver Jubilee – 25 years

Entered March 13, 1993

Pittsburgh, PA

It was her spiritual director in Poland who helped Sr. Daniela discern her religious vocation. "I was always involved in parish life through youth groups," she said. "I wanted to be involved even more."

Dedicated and loyal to the families she serves, Sr. Daniela is currently the principal at St. Bede School in Pittsburgh.

"All my religious life I have always focused on service to others," she said. "Being involved in education helps me not only to work closely with children but also to have close contact with their parents. Over the years, I have learned that God has touched their lives in so many different ways. It also has changed me and my approach in my ministry. Sometimes people do not look for advice - they just want someone to listen and offer a prayer for them." Each day during Mass, she offers prayers for the families she serves.

Sr. Daniela believes Catholic education is an important part of instilling Catholic values in the hearts and minds of young people. This ministry to children and their families allows Sr. Daniela to live the mission and charism of the Congregation each day.

(Pictured, right, with Sr. Antonina Gadacz, left)



SR. MARGARET DESALES O'CONNOR

Silver Jubilee – 25 years

April 18, 1993

Philadelphia, PA

When Sr. Margaret DeSales entered religious life at 47 years old, she was surprised by the trust and respect people have for Catholic sisters. “Many people approach me to ask for prayers, to share their problems, to reminisce about cherished sisters and even to thank me for being a religious,” she said. “It is very humbling because I know they are really reaching out to our Lord through me.”

Her spiritual director and the book *Return to Nazareth*, by Casimir Holda, CSsR, inspired Sr. Margaret DeSales to enter the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth later in life. Describing herself as faith-filled and hope-filled, she currently serves as Assistant to the Associate Vice President of Holy Family University’s Newtown Campus.

When approached by those who ask for prayers or those who simply need to share their story, Sr. Margaret DeSales’ hope is that she “channels our Lord’s graces to them.”

(Pictured, right, with Sr. Maria Therese Nguyen, left)



SR. FRANCESCA WITKOWSKA

Silver Jubilee – 25 years

August 25, 1993

Grand Prairie, TX

As someone who loves learning about the nature of God and God’s creations, Sr. Francesca was drawn to Nazareth spirituality because it is based on the mystery of God’s hiddenness in ordinary life.

“I understand our charism as living out the mystery of God’s incarnation – meaning I allow myself to notice God’s presence in my own life and every person and in all creation,” she said. “I witness God manifesting Himself through every life, in every human heart, in every process of growth, in every relationship, and even in the reality of suffering within the human family.”

Through her ministry as Director of Mission and Ministry at Nazareth Retreat Center in Grand Prairie, TX, Sr. Francesca has many opportunities to see God’s Incarnate Presence in the people who come to the retreat center. “God’s presence is often not obvious and many times takes faith and trust,” she said. “I think living out our charism requires constant sorting through our understanding about life, our origin and our final destiny in God.”

A lifetime of influence

by Tammy Townsend Kise,
Communications Director

“Sisters are real,” said Mary Becker, Director of Alpha House, a nursery, pre-k and kindergarten school established in 1975 on the campus of Holy Family University (HFU) in Philadelphia. “They’re not distant or better than everyone else. They’re a part of our lives.”

And, she should know. The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth (CSFN) have been a part of Mary’s life since she was a first grade student at St. Katherine of Siena School in Philadelphia. In fact, she was part of the third class to start at the school and grew up across the street from Nazareth Academy High School, a sponsored ministry of the CSFNs in Philadelphia.

“I never thought I would be back here working,” said Mary, who holds a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from La Salle University and a master’s degree in early childhood education from HFU. “Life works out in interesting ways.”

Mary Becker, Director of Alpha House in Philadelphia



Sixteen years ago, she came to Alpha House as a substitute teacher and hasn't left. Alpha House is home for her now and for the many families served by the school. "What we do here at Alpha House continues the charism of the sisters," she said. "Their mission to serve families extends into every portion of the ministry. Alpha House is a family."

Her position as director does have its difficulties, though. On those days when things are especially challenging, Mary admits she has walked to the cemetery located on the grounds of HFU where many sisters she knows are buried, quietly asking for guidance.

Through the years, the CSFNs in Mary's life have been there to give her advice, to listen, and to encourage her when she had doubts. "They have a way of convincing me that I really can do things I think I can't do," she said. "If I felt like I needed them, they were there."

Her professional work at Alpha House along with her friendships with the late Sr. Michaelann Delaney and Sr. Bernadette Donahue have helped Mary deepen her understanding of the value of family. "My husband and children are grateful that we've been



exposed to the mission of the sisters," she said. "They have helped to shape the lives of my children."

Sisters have also been there for Mary through personal difficulties. After her son suffered a severe injury that threatened to leave him paralyzed, Mary turned to the CSFNs.

"I wouldn't have been able to get through without their prayers." Today, her son walks without any impairments.

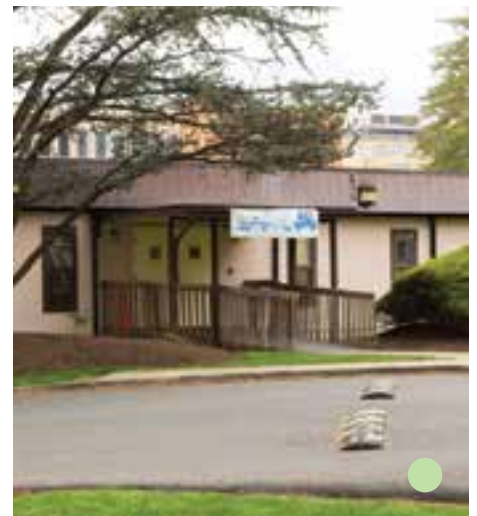
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NEXT PAGE...*

- Mary's son, in the arms of Sr. Michaelann Delaney, dressed as a CSFN for Halloween
- Students at Alpha House
- The late Sr. Boniface Warminska in an undated photo at Alpha House



With a lifetime of learning from, working with and seeking guidance from CSFNs, Mary says she feels like she is a part of the CSFN community. “I’ve developed life-long relationships with the sisters,” she said. “I turn to them for everything.”

Alpha House is operated by Holy Family University, a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth. The program’s curriculum includes the academic, physical, spiritual, and organizational development of young children who learn by teacher guidance and individual exploration. For more information, visit alphahouseschool.com.



- Sr. Evelyn (Evie) Marita Figueroa, Director of Religious Education at Alpha House, with a few of her students
- The late Sr. Boniface Warminska in an undated photo at Alpha House
- Alpha House on the grounds of Holy Family University in Philadelphia

Sr. Bertha's watch

A small, pendant watch (pictured below) made in 1925 by the Elgin Watch Company recently arrived in the provincial archives, a gift from Richard Burda.

"Please accept and keep safe this watch that has been in my possession for many years," wrote Mr. Burda. "I believe that the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth are the rightful persons to possess and care for this wonderful keepsake."

The watch was originally a gift from Sr. Bertha Kedzieja, CSFN, to Mr. Burda's father Eugene, who was a resident at the Sisters' Holy Family Orphan Asylum in Emsworth, PA from August 1918 to September 1923. Only ten years old at the time, Eugene and his brother, Henry, 8, were placed at the orphanage by their father who was

a coal miner from Portage, PA. Their mother had abandoned the family and their father was unable to care for the two boys by himself.

According to Mr. Burda, life at the orphanage was "difficult" for his father and uncle. They missed the family life they knew and "longed for the love of their absent mother."

"FOR MY FATHER, SR. BERTHA BECAME AN IMPORTANT, LOVING AND SUPPORTIVE MOTHER FIGURE," WROTE MR. BURDA.

Eugene and Sr. Bertha remained in contact long after both had left Emsworth, writing often to each other through the years. The last letter Eugene received was in 1990. Written

by the superior at Nazarethville where Sr. Bertha resided, the letter explained that Sr. Bertha was in good health, though she was soon to turn 104.

Born in Poland in April 1886, Sr. Bertha entered the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth in August 1902 and professed her final vows in 1912. At the time of her death in 1990, Sr. Bertha had spent almost 88 years in religious life. A lifelong teacher in both the Chicago and Pittsburgh areas, she served in Emsworth, PA from 1922 to 1926.

"I believe that Sr. Bertha sent her watch to my father for my benefit, since I have been a watch collector since 1972," wrote Mr. Burda. Inscribed on the back of the silver-cased watch is "Sister M. Bertha" and inside the back cover are the words, "From the Pupils of the eighth grade HFS, June 1926."

He went on to explain, "I sent [the watch] on to you now so that it can be seen by others and serve as an inspiration for those who seek to do the important work that Sr. Bertha demonstrated."

The watch is now on display in the Holy Family Province Heritage Room at the Provincialate in Des Plaines, IL. Eugene Burda passed away in 2000 at the age of 92.

This article originally appeared in the June 2018 issue of Nazareth Encounters, our monthly e-newsletter. If you would like to receive Nazareth Encounters in your email each month, please visit nazarethcsfn.org/news-and-events/receive-our-newsletters.





In Memoriam



Sr. M. Annella Kipa
May 28, 1926 –
June 12, 2018

Born in Chicago
on May 28, 1926
to Anthony and

Catherine (Sitko) Kipa, Helen was the third of three siblings. Along with her two sisters, she attended St. Hyacinth School in Chicago where she was taught by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth. She entered the community in September 1951 and professed her first vows in June 1954.

Sr. Annella began her teaching career at Holy Trinity School in Chicago. She received her teaching certificate from De Lourdes College in Des Plaines, IL. She also taught at St. Luke School in Irving, TX, Immaculate Conception School in Grand Prairie, TX, and Immaculate Heart of Mary School in Chicago.

Beginning in 1975, Sr. Annella served as buyer for the Provincialate which involved making the necessary purchases for the facility. In 1983, she began ministering at Holy Family Health Center where she held many positions including receptionist, medical records' assistant, gift shop manager, housekeeping manager and other jobs which she took on as needed over the next 24 years.

In 2007, when Sr. Elizabeth Trembczynski became the Administrator at Casa San Carlo, a retirement community in Northlake, IL, Sr. Annella went along as a companion and volunteer, serving and ministering there for the next nine years.

All of Sr. Annella's titles could actually be placed under one umbrella: heartfelt, compassionate friend to many. She was a model and star among

the people with whom she worked, laughing and crying together with them. However humble a person's contribution, it always merited Sr. Annella's appreciation and respect. In 2016, at the age of 90, she officially retired to the Provincialate after over 60 years serving God's people.

Sr. Annella passed away without a struggle on June 12, 2018 at Resurrection Medical Center, Chicago. She was the last remaining member of her immediate family, but her funeral was attended by many friends with whom she had lived and served over her lifetime. Her Mass of Resurrection was June 14 at the Holy Family Convent Chapel, Des Plaines. She was laid to rest at All Saints' Cemetery also in Des Plaines.



Sr. M. Anthony Novak
September 4, 1934
– June 25, 2018

Rose Marie Novak was born in Pittsburgh on September 4, 1934 to Walter and Louise (Wojtasiak) Novak and baptized at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church. Along with her siblings, she attended St. Stanislaus School.

Living next door to the convent, one of her fond preschool memories was peeking in the backyard on laundry day and waiting with gleeful anticipation for the sisters to playfully toss her up in the air on a clean drying blanket. She continued to grow closer to the sisters and was a ready volunteer, helping in the school and parish.

At Mt. Nazareth Academy in Pittsburgh, she continued her

education with the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth and entered the community on January 11, 1953. She made perpetual vows on August 12, 1961 in Pittsburgh.

Sr. Mary Anthony (formerly known as Sr. Mary Antonilla) began teaching elementary school at Holy Family School in Pittsburgh. She also taught at Transfiguration School in Michigan; Sts. Cyril and Methodius in McKees Rocks, PA and at St. Stanislaus School in Erie, PA.

Multi-talented and willing to take on new challenges offered within the province, her ministry took wing in various ways of serving God's people. Sr. Mary Anthony served as a childcare worker at Holy Family Institute (HFI), Emsworth, PA. She also ministered for nine years as a licensed practical nurse in pediatrics at Mercy Hospital in Altoona, PA.

She served at St. Leonard's Home in Hollidaysburg, PA as a healthcare coordinator; as a medical and clerical assistant with Evelyn S. Berwick, MD in Pittsburgh; as a live-in-companion to Mrs. Elizabeth Gordon in Chagrin Falls, OH; and as a part-time receptionist at Poor Clare Monastery in Rocky River, OH.

Though her health condition began to limit her activity, she remained active from a wheelchair, reaching out to staff, sisters and residents at Holy Family Manor in Pittsburgh. Once bedridden, she never complained.

During the morning hours of June 25, 2018, Sr. Mary Anthony received the comfort of her "sweet heart of Jesus" as he gently took her home. Her funeral liturgy was celebrated on June 27 at Holy Family Manor Chapel. She was laid to rest in St. Joseph Cemetery on the CSFN grounds in Ross Township, PA.

Donations in memory of a deceased sister may be mailed to Development Office, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, 310 N. River Rd., Des Plaines, IL 60016. Please include a note with the name of the Sister in whose memory you are giving. Donations may also be made online at nazarethcsfn.org/support-us/donate.



Thank you from our Development Office

In looking back at 2017, we realize how much we have to be grateful for, especially for each one of you, our generous friends and benefactors. When you make a gift to us, it is used both to enable our sisters to carry out our mission to families and also to care for our retired sisters, who through their volunteer and prayer ministries, are a vital part of our mission.

Because of you, we were able to replace a rusty old car that our sisters use to get to medical appointments, repair the malfunctioning garage

doors at our Grand Prairie Convent, replace a hot water heater at Mount Nazareth in Philadelphia where some of our oldest sisters live, and replace the furnace at Holy Spirit Convent in Pittsburgh. We were also able to pay all of our sisters' medical expenses. In short, we were able to meet all the needs of all our sisters throughout the year.

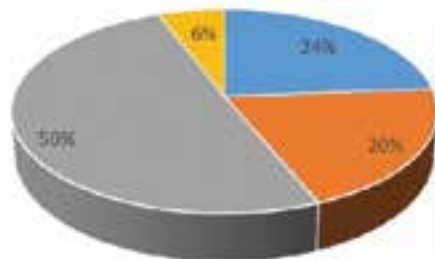
Every time we asked you, our loving and faithful benefactors, for help, you came through for us. You never let us down. As our partners in mission and ministry, you have helped us in so

many ways. Throughout the years, you have not only become a part of our history but a deep part of our lives. You are a gift to us – a blessing to us – and we are grateful! Please know that our sisters keep you in their daily prayers.

We are also thankful for you who have served on our committees and have been instrumental in the success of our fundraising events. There is truly no way to thank you enough for the time and talents you have shared with us.

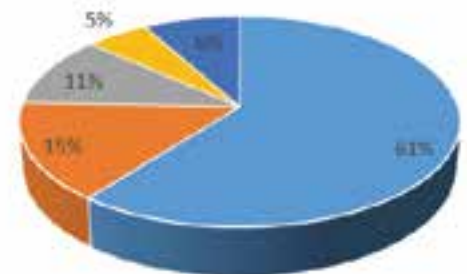
Income

- Salaries & Social Security
- Donations
- Investment Income
- Other



Expenses

- Sisters Living & Retirement
- Building/Property
- General Operation
- Development Office
- Ministry Support



2018 CSFN Social

Thanks to Allison Taylor, Barbara Gellman, and Sr. Helen Petela, we had another successful CSFN Social. This year's net income was over \$65,000! What would we do without these wonderful people who so generously love and support our sisters? Special thanks to Dorothy Turner, the Connelly Family and, of course, our sisters for all their help. The whole event would have been impossible to host without their help.

Sr. Mary Annette Gailey with Stewart Barbera



Importance of Sponsored Ministries

You often read stories in Nazareth Connections, in Nazareth Encounters (our e-newsletter) and on our website about sisters who serve in our CSFN sponsored ministries. But it is not always clear why sponsorship is so important.

Since 1887, when Mother Mary of Jesus the Good Shepherd (Blessed Frances Siedliska) established our first ministry in Chicago, Saint Mary Hospital, the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth (CSFN) have been devoted to serving families and children in the U.S.

Our sponsored ministries are living, breathing extensions of our charism, our vision. They represent who we are, what we believe, what we value. Most of these ministries have been established as separate nonprofit corporations to ensure that they are

available for families who need them far into the future.

As sponsors, it is our responsibility to find ways that our spirituality and vision continue to guide the activities of these ministries. To do this, we ensure that lay people working in our ministries understand our foundress' vision as we work together to minister to the needs of families. As our generous friends and benefactors, we want to make sure that you understand how all of these entities fit together, what it means when you give a gift to our sisters, and how it differs from donating to one of our sponsored ministries.

When we ask for donations from our National Development Office, most often the funding is used directly for the needs of our sisters for food, clothing, healthcare, retirement care, etc.

When you donate to our sponsored ministries, be it a school, retreat center, health care facility, you are supporting the operation and good works of that ministry.

As part of an effort to collaborate effectively, the CSFN National Development Office and the development staff of many CSFN sponsored ministries gathered at Holy Family University in early August to attend a workshop to learn about planned/deferred giving. Throughout the rest of the year, the group will be part of several conference calls to develop functional planned giving programs at our respective ministries upon which we can build from year to year.

We value our sisters and each of our ministries. Each donation you make, whether it is to help with the needs of our sisters or to assist with the good works of a ministry, helps our sisters and our ministries continue to extend the Kingdom of God's love.

Pictured are: Sr. Loretta Theresa Felici, CSFN, Mission and Ministries, Inc; Michael Sexauer, Holy Family Foundation; Katherine Barth, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth; Heidi Scheuer, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth; Denise LePera, Nazareth Academy High School; Kim Caldwell, Holy Family University; Patricia McGarvey, Nazareth Academy Grade School; Josh Liss, Holy Family University; Ann Restaine, Community at Holy Family Manor; Sr. Dorothy Pawlus, CSFN, Community at Holy Family Manor; James Garvey, Holy Family University; Sr. Cynthia Meyer, CSFN, St. Leonard's Home.



Sisters of the
Holy Family of Nazareth

310 N River Rd
Des Plaines, IL 60016
www.nazarethcsfn.org

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JOIN US FOR OKTOBERFEST

Mark your calendars for October 14 and join us at White Eagle Events & Convention Center in Niles, IL beginning at 11:00 a.m. for Oktoberfest 2018. This annual event features delicious German-style food, raffles, music and conversation with our sisters.

Tickets are \$55 per person and must be purchased by September 30. Proceeds benefit the family outreach of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth. For more information, please call Sr. Clare Marie Kozicki, CSFN, at 847-298-6760 x. 237.

Thanks so much to Sr. Clare Marie; the Oktoberfest committee co-chairs Margaret Gorder and Michael Hoban; and, our industrious committee members Elaine Beatovic, Jackie Pokorny, Mary Puente, Jacqueline Hyzy, Irene Delgiudice, Dan Gott, Bob Neil, Joseph Corrigan, and Dennis Vacarro for all their efforts that make this event so successful.



We, the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, are called to extend the Kingdom of God's love among ourselves and others by living the spirit of Jesus, Mary and Joseph whose lives were centered in the love of God and one another. We witness to this love through dedicated service to the Church, especially in ministry to the family.