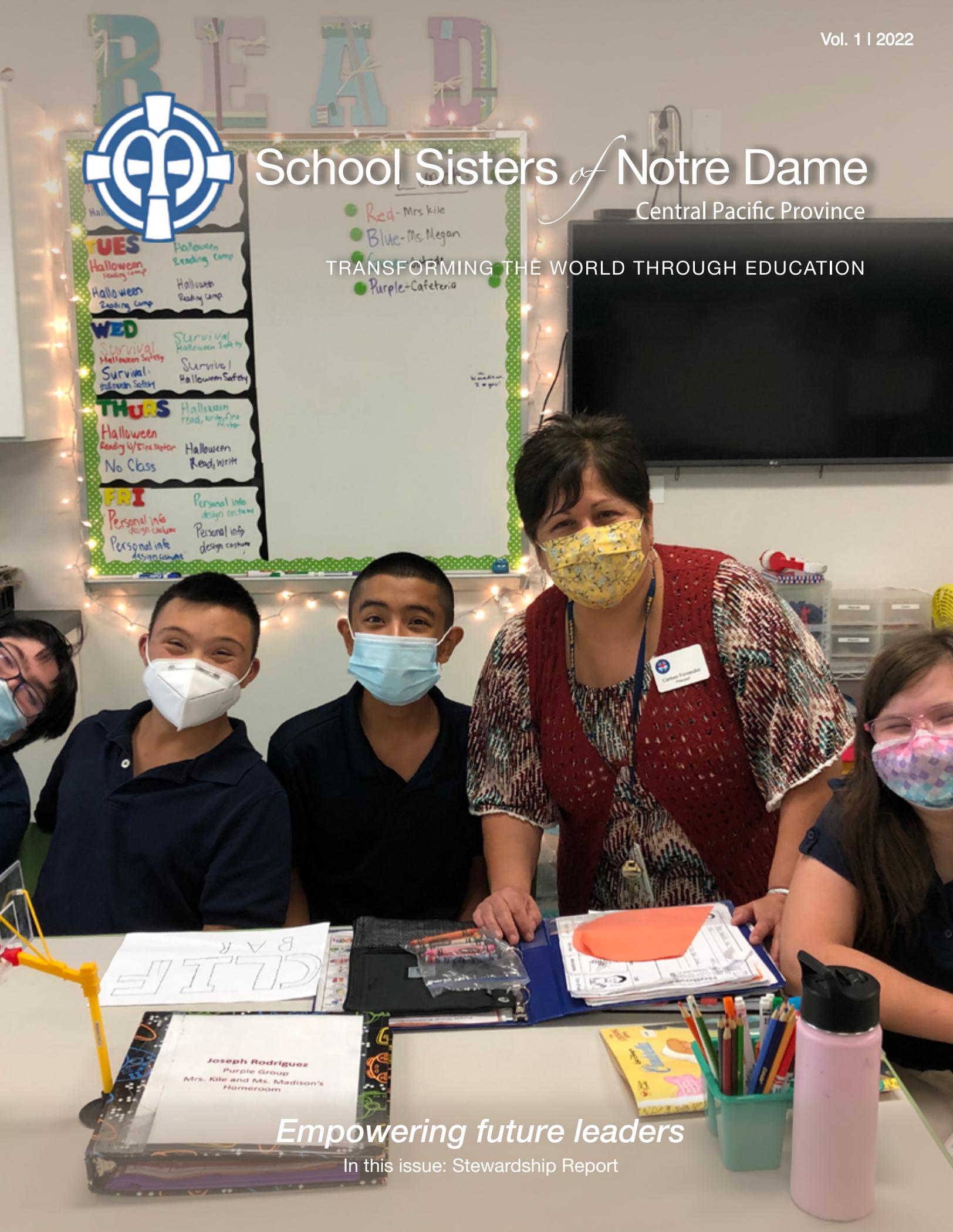




# School Sisters of Notre Dame

Central Pacific Province

TRANSFORMING THE WORLD THROUGH EDUCATION



**TUES** Halloween Reading Camp  
Halloween Reading Camp  
Halloween Reading Camp

**WED** Survival Halloween Safety  
Survival Halloween Safety  
Survival Halloween Safety

**THURS** Halloween read, write, draw  
Halloween Read, write

**FRI** Personal info design costume  
Personal info design costume

● Red - Mrs Kile  
● Blue - Ms. Megan  
● Purple - Cafeteria

CLIFF  
BAR

Joseph Rodriguez  
Purple Group  
Mrs. Kile and Ms. Madison's  
Homeroom

*Empowering future leaders*

In this issue: Stewardship Report



## Sister Debra Marie Sciano, SSND

*“Love is the bond that unites us with one another and with God.”*

*~Blessed Theresa Gerhardinger  
Letter #949, December 8, 1850*

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Happy New Year! A new year brings many promises and opportunities. In Milwaukee, the sisters are fulfilling a promise made a couple of years ago. As you read this, they are settling into their new home at Trinity Woods, an intergenerational housing community for School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND), seniors and students who are single mothers with children under age 12, on the campus of Mount Mary University. We will always treasure the decades we lived and worked at Notre Dame of Elm Grove, yet we look forward to all the new opportunities that await us at Trinity Woods.

You may notice this issue of the newsletter is a little different. In this issue, we are sharing how SSND

transform the world by empowering future leaders through education (traditional and non-traditional). We know these leaders, influenced by SSND, will now influence the next generation of leaders (Pages 3-7). All of this is leading up to our Women’s Leadership Luncheons in March. To learn more visit: [www.ssndcp.org/wll-22](http://www.ssndcp.org/wll-22). We hope you can join us.

This issue also includes activities Around the Province (Page 8), the annual Stewardship Report (Page 9), Awards and Honors (Page 10), a list of our beloved deceased sisters from 2021 (Page 11) and a preview of Upcoming Events (Page 12).

We are grateful for your partnership, leadership and support. Each of us is a leader and

mentor in our own way. We are all interconnected. It is this unity that brings us to you and you to us. May 2022 bring you unity, peace and good health.

With peace, blessings and gratitude,

*Debra Sciano, SSND*

Debra M. Sciano, SSND  
Provincial Leader

### ON THE COVER:

Carmen Fernandez with students at Notre Dame School of Dallas (NDS). Thanks to COVID-19 plans and precautions, the much-needed services of NDS have been provided throughout the pandemic. Photo provided by Carmen Fernandez.

## School Sisters of Notre Dame

Central Pacific Province live and minister in 62 dioceses, 25 states, the U.S. territory of Guam, and the countries of Ghana, Italy, Japan, Kenya and Nepal.

Contact Resource Development or inquire about finding a sister at [missionadv@ssndcp.org](mailto:missionadv@ssndcp.org).

### Connect with us!

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 [www.ssndcp.org/spotify](http://www.ssndcp.org/spotify)

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#### SSND DALLAS

P.O. Box 227275  
Dallas, TX 75222-7275  
214-845-7410

#### SSND MILWAUKEE

10700 West Research Drive, Suite 145  
Wauwatosa, WI 53226-3458  
262-787-1033

#### OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

170 Good Counsel Drive  
Mankato, MN 56001-3138  
507-389-4212

#### SANCTA MARIA IN RIPA

320 East Ripa Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63125-2897  
314-633-7032



## Empowering future leaders through education

*“We educate with the conviction that the world can be changed through the transformation of persons. Thus, our ministry demands a Christian vision of what the human person is called to be and what the world is destined to become.” ~ You Are Sent, C 22*

### Reflecting the charism of the School Sisters of Notre Dame

by Trudy Hamilton, Director of Communications

Carmen Fernandez, principal of Notre Dame School of Dallas (NDS) [[www.notredameschool.org](http://www.notredameschool.org)], which serves students with developmental disabilities ages six-21, said, “So many sisters have made an impact on my life. Although I have had many roles at NDS, the role of leadership was cultivated, encouraged and supported by Sister Dawn Achs.”

Carmen’s path to leadership at NDS was not easy. She came to the school as a music teacher 31 years ago. Since then, she earned multiple degrees and certifications, all while raising a family - including twins. “My leadership skills today reflect the charism of the SSND,” said Carmen. “They are not a memorized set of words, but an embedded set of actions lived daily. In the forefront of these actions is the recognition that we are created in God’s image, that each day is a commitment to help others reach the fullness of their potential and the audacious belief that education can

change the world.”

Three years ago, Carmen initiated a new program for graduates who needed additional job experience. The program has grown so large, they are already looking for a new, expanded location.

“I have reached out to Sister Dawn on many occasions to speak to her about education, leadership and shared thoughts about special education,” said Carmen. “The message was that of strength, humbleness and the belief that all things are possible with God. I hold that very close to my heart.”

#### Sister Dawn Achs

Sister Dawn Achs serves as a provincial councilor for the Central Pacific Province. Her approach to leadership is one of servant leadership. “I’m here to serve those who are serving,” said Sister Dawn. “I never ask anyone to do anything that I wouldn’t be willing to do. I like to be able to ask questions, listen and really hear.”

The majority of Sister Dawn’s vocation was as a teacher, administrator and superintendent. All of her positions included mentoring, “I believe leadership and mentoring go hand in hand,” she said.

“Female leadership has a special place in families and communities,” said Sister Dawn, “A good female leader has a level of awareness of the need of the person. By our nature as women, we tend to be in tune to the



**Carmen Fernandez assists a First Communicant with a reading during her First Communion celebration at Notre Dame School of Dallas. Photo provided by Carmen Fernandez.**

person and his/her unique, individual needs.”

Sister Dawn acknowledges the role of SSND with today’s girls and women is evolving, “The sisters don’t always have direct exposure roles anymore. Now, it is more a matter of being a positive role model.”

“Carmen is a woman of vision,” said Sister Dawn. “She sees the needs and meets them. She loves the school and the children.” |



**Sister Dawn Achs enjoys time with students at Notre Dame School of Dallas. Photo provided by Trudy Hamilton.**

**More stories of leadership on page 4 . .**

Leadership stories continued. . .

## “I’ve been there, too.”

by Caroline Harvey, Communications

**K**atie Richie has been the administrator at Maple Avenue Elementary School in Sussex, Wisconsin, since July 2021. Overall, Katie has been in education for the past 15 years. It was her great aunt, Sister Mary Faith Parkinson, whom she credits as her role model and supporter for her career choice. “She was extremely foundational in shaping my values as an educator,” said Katie. “Growing up, we lived close to Elm Grove, Wisconsin, so we were able to visit my great aunt a lot. She would tell stories about her former students or experiences as a principal. When I started college, she would ask me how my classes were going.”

As an educator, Katie describes Sister Mary Faith’s mentorship as a constant and welcomed presence everyday in her professional life. “She’s taught me how to help students learn from their mistakes and to take ownership of them,” said Katie. “Sister Mary Faith said, ‘Have the kids begin the sentence with ‘I’ when explaining



(L to R): Sister Mary Faith Parkinson and her niece, Katie Richie, pose for a selfie. Photo by Katie Richie.

what happened.’ This helps them take ownership and be honest, which is so important. I use this phrase every day, and I tell my staff and the parents to use it as well.”

When Katie would share her experiences as a teacher, and now as an administrator, with her great aunt, she was never afraid to share her challenges. “Sister Mary Faith would usually say, ‘I’ve been there too,’” Katie said. “I can’t express enough how much her experiences, her storytelling and her values have shaped my values as an educator.”

### Sister Mary Faith Parkinson

Growing up, Sister Mary Faith had wanted to be a nurse, but she learned rather quickly that God had other plans. As a result, she professed vows with the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) on August 6, 1948. Building on her many years of teaching experience, she eventually became an administrator at several elementary schools, the majority in Wisconsin.

“I wasn’t much for rules and regulations,” Sister Mary Faith said. “If you show respect for others, then you’ll always know what to do. Respect and love for others are all you need when teaching or being an administrator. Therefore, the kids usually told me the truth and the teachers couldn’t understand why. I’d tell those teachers, that it’s not easy to admit that you’re wrong. Admitting when we are wrong can feel like a punishment, so I’d thank them and that was it. As a result, they wanted to tell me the truth.”

For Sister Mary Faith, leadership is all about service, “You’re there to serve others, you’re not there to serve yourself.” She explained that leading, especially in an educational setting, is about letting others make mistakes and allowing them to learn from them. |



(L to R): Sister Margaret Ann Schulte and Dr. Isabel Pino, M.D., enjoy the warm St. Louis weather. Photo by Kaitlyn Holdmeyer.

## Honoring strengths

by Kaitlyn Holdmeyer, Communications

**D**r. Isabel Pino, M.D., is a former student of Sister Margaret Ann Schulte. Isabel came to the United States with her parents from Cuba while she was in elementary school. Isabel fondly remembers Sister Margaret Ann from her four years at Rosati-Kain High School, St. Louis. As an adult, she has spent her career as a pediatrician in the northeast portion of the United States.

When asked to share a classroom memory, Isabel said that Sister Margaret Ann gave a classroom assignment to imagine they were living in Philadelphia during the Revolutionary War and they were writing back home to the “old country” about daily life. Sister Margaret Ann wanted politics and social life in the letter. She specifically asked that the letter be just as if they were writing to their families. Isabel proceeded to write to her family in Spanish. Sister Margaret Ann had the Spanish teacher translate and mark up any grammatical errors.

“I remember thinking that I didn’t take into consideration grammatical issues because I didn’t think she would translate it. I’m sure Sister Margaret Ann got a kick out of it. But it is moments like these that make me look

Continued on page 5. . .

## Honoring strengths continued. . .

back and think what a wonderful teacher she was,” said Isabel.

Isabel went on to share, “You seldom get to tell someone the impact they made on your life. Sister Margaret Ann was by far the best teacher I ever had, that includes Kindergarten through medical school, five countries and two continents.”

### *Sister Margaret Ann Schulte*

Sister Margaret Ann Schulte was born and raised in St. Louis. She celebrated her 70th Jubilee in 2021. The impact she has made on the students she taught over the course of 50 years has been significant. She taught grade school for a few years and then spent the remainder of her teaching career as a high school history teacher. She served the majority of her time at Rosati-Kain High School and DeSmet Jesuit High School, both in St. Louis. Sister Margaret Ann remembers Isabel having served on the current topics speech team at Rosati-Kain. Over the past few years, they have had many wonderful opportunities to catch up during class reunions and at local events.

## Effort, persistence and a positive attitude

by Heidi Sampson, Communications

For Anna Nuckles, Sister Leonida Speh (deceased September 10, 2018) made the largest, and most



(L to R): Anna Nuckles and Sister Leonida Speh at Anna House in St. Louis. Photo provided by Anna Nuckles.

positive impact on her life the day Sister Leonida’s truck broke down. Anna met Sister Leonida, a math and science teacher, as a high school student at the Preparatory Institute of Notre Dame (PIND) in Sunland, California. “I remember when the old truck broke down after Sister Leonida had loaded it with various plant cuttings. Instead of emptying out the truck bed, Sister Leonida, dressed in her full habit, pulled out a tool box and began working on the truck’s engine until she got it running. I was in awe and remember thinking, ‘I want to do stuff like that when I’m older. I’ll accomplish whatever I set my mind to. No limits.’”

In 1975, Anna taught at Santa Isabel, in East Los Angeles, a school run by School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND). “The SSND were generous with their time and helped me survive student teaching,” said Anna. “I was amazed at how they managed the faculty and students with both a steady and firm hand while patting us on the back for a job well done. These ladies made me want to excel at teaching and to inspire my students as Sister Leonida inspired me through her words, ‘feed a child’s curiosity, help them gain knowledge, develop skills to navigate life and spread God’s love.’”

“The School Sisters of Notre Dame have a unique Constitution, *You Are Sent*, but it has a universal message. For me, it means, “Anna, you are sent too.”

### *Sister Leonida Speh*

Sister Leonida – a combination of her parents’ first names, Leo and Ida – Speh professed final vows on July 28, 1950. Sister Leonida was a role model for many teachers

and students during her 56 years as a teacher. Her enthusiasm and wealth of knowledge about biology and of life, as well as the time and energy she gave to students and projects, placed her above the average teacher. Her welcoming smile was a sign of her love and support for those she met. Sister Leonida, 95, died on September 10, 2018, at Anna House, The Sarah Community, Bridgeton, Missouri. |



(L to R): Laura Cruz, Hawley Iseke, Sister Paulina Raymond and Sister Jean Ann Crisostomo at Hawley’s Covenanting in Guam. Photo provided by Hawley Iseke.

## By focusing on charism leadership appears

by Heidi Sampson, Communications

Associate Hawley Iseke first met Sister Jean Ann Crisostomo, the current president of Notre Dame High School (NDHS), Guam, during his second year as an employee of NDHS. As NDHS transitioned under the leadership of Sister Jean Ann, the one gift she routinely imparted upon her colleagues, is the desire for excellence. “This meant striving for better things, seeking higher goals, and in all things, incorporating the charism of Blessed Theresa into the classroom,” said Hawley. “One of the challenges Sister Jean Ann bestowed on us at NDHS was to create a charism course geared at instilling the knowledge and spirit of

Continued on page 6. . .

### Focusing on charism continued. . .

Blessed Theresa. It was challenging but fruitful.”

Hawley credits Sister Jean Ann’s mentorship for the success of his teaching career. “At the end of my first year, I really contemplated leaving the teaching profession,” said Hawley. “But, by the grace of God, and the SSND mentorship, my teaching endeavor has brought about many memorable moments with colleagues, students and members of the community.”

### Sister Jean Ann Crisostomo

Sister Jean Ann Crisostomo, president of Notre Dame High School, Guam, first met Hawley as his employer and fellow colleague. “My relationship with Hawley is not only professional at NDHS, but he is also an associate. We journey together in the sharing of our ministries and charism,” said Sister Jean Ann. “By increasing growth opportunities and enhancing knowledge of Blessed Theresa Gerhardinger’s charism within the educational curriculum and mission of the school, leadership appears.” |

## A holistic approach to Earth and spirituality

by Heidi Sampson, Communications

Dr. Charles (Chuck) West met Sister Patricia (Pat) Frost (formerly Sister Gilmery) at Grace High School (now Totino-Grace High School) in Fridley, Minnesota. At the time they met, Sister Pat was a chemistry and physics teacher in the science department. Chuck recalls Sister Pat’s ability to teach difficult subjects with clarity. “She would often relate a difficult subject to real life experiences,” said Chuck.

The most formative experience for Chuck occurred on a trip to Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, in North Dakota, with Sister Pat, other SSND and his fellow classmates. On Thanksgiving night, they would all

pile into numerous cars and a U-Haul to drive through the night to drop off donations to SSND who lived close to the reservation. Those sisters would then distribute the items on the reservation. “I learned from Sister Pat and the Indigenous people that the land is a space that you connect with, not just for your livelihood, but for the spirituality of it,” said Chuck. “I was fascinated with how the Indigenous people derived cultural and life lessons from their connection with the land.

Whereas growing up in the Catholic religion, Catholicism seemed to be devoid of that spiritual connection to the land. The experience opened up a whole new way of interpreting Catholic theology to include a holistic interaction with nature. I also developed a greater understanding, appreciation and tolerance for the diversity of religions, and people’s spirituality.”

Chuck believed his experience on Fort Berthold Indian Reservation deepened his love and appreciation for nature, so much so that he chose to bring that love and appreciation forward throughout his life. Chuck completed his doctoral work at Iowa



Dr. Charles (Chuck) West at a field day instructing students. Photo provided by Chuck West.

State University in agronomy and grasslands. Chuck’s career included many trips to foreign lands where he applied his insights into indigenous spiritual Earth connections to his teachings of agricultural practices. He taught for 28 years at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, and eight and half years at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas. In total, he taught in academia for 36 years. At the source of his own studies, research and teaching philosophy were the lessons he learned at Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. “From my experiences with Sister Pat, I was able to teach my students a more holistic approach to agronomy, plants, grasslands, soils and water,” said Chuck.



(L to R): Sister Pat Frost, students Jennifer Duplessis, Michael (brother) West, Cindy Fournier and Sister Joan Nikolai (former SSND), on a trip to Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, North Dakota. Photo provided by Chuck West.

### Sister Patricia Frost

For Sister Patricia (Pat) Frost, Fort Berthold Indian Reservation had been instrumental in her own



Sister Pat Frost

growth as a sister, educator and how she viewed the land. “I didn’t actually live and work on

Continued on page 7. . .

### A holistic approach continued. . .

the reservation, but I did teach in a co-ed boarding school with Indigenous students in attendance,” said Sister Pat. “The students and some tribal leaders invited me to visit the reservation, which began a serious long-term relationship with some members of the tribe.”

When Sister Pat first met Chuck in the science department at Grace High School (now Totino-Grace High School), Fridley, Minnesota, she really enjoyed watching his eagerness to grow and understand the Indigenous people at the Fort Berthold Reservation. “The trips I took with students to the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, involved interacting with and learning from peers and elders, as we shared in their pow wows and listened to their stories,” said Sister Pat. “Chuck began to grasp that Indigenous people had a deeper relationship to the Earth and an understanding of it that he desired. Over the years, he has written to me about his studies and research. It became clear to me that those experiences and relationships we built at Fort Berthold Indian Reservation helped him to develop more holistic approaches to agronomy and water

management that were good for mother Earth.”

Sister Pat believes that leadership is about experiences, growth and reflection. “I must allow my life and understandings to partner with my students in their growing understandings, which means we have to experience some things together and reflect on them. Indigenous people who lived on Fort Berthold Indian Reservation had a ‘oneness of being’ type of relationship to the Earth and through my time with them, they changed my relationship to the Earth as well. They had an understanding and relationship to creation and creatures that I wanted to better understand and live into, and I believe Chuck sensed the same thing.” |

### An enduring relationship of faith-based growth

by Kaitlyn Holdmeyer, Communications

Andrea Koetting Schneider grew up in Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish in North St. Louis. Her parents grew up in that same neighborhood and were part of the parish their whole lives. Her father was always ready to share his time and talents

with the parish, which included his highly anticipated crèche scene. At Christmas, Sister Lisette would coordinate decorating the church with Andrea’s father. This took place over many years and Andrea always helped her father install the crèche scene. Andrea became a sacristan with Sister Lisette and every day after school she would meet her in her classroom, complete a few end-of-day tasks and head

over to the church. Andrea shared, “Instead of a ‘moment of impact’ in meeting Sister Lisette, I look back and see it as an enduring relationship. My catholic school education, elementary through college, and growing up in a faith-based community gave me an awareness and identity of the Christian faith that has shaped my life. Beyond my family, Sister Lisette remains the person who embodies the identity and connection to that faith and stability in early childhood. That has been a rare gift and I am grateful.”

Andrea continues to correspond with Sister Lisette. “To this day, I am dazzled by her handwriting. My family knows how I await Sister Lisette’s cards and letters, especially at Christmas. After reminiscing about my friendship and history with her, I do recognize it is something very special. Indeed, God has truly blessed me,” shared Andrea.

### Sister Lisette Menke

Sister Lisette Menke was born in Brussels, Illinois. She had spent her life around sisters and was thrilled to meet the School Sisters of Notre Dame in sixth grade when she moved to Alton, Illinois. Everyday, she helped the sisters get prepared for the next day of class. She even spent Saturdays with the sisters making copies and cleaning classrooms. Sister Lisette shared that she had always felt the call to be a sister. She spent 53 years in the classroom, teaching first through fourth grade. In 1956, Sister Lisette had the opportunity to teach Andrea, who greatly enjoyed coming to church to help clean and have spiritual conversations. Sister Lisette shared, “In school, we worked around the word love. We would discuss that if we don’t love then we don’t get anywhere, so we had to love, share and work together.” |



(L to R): Andrea Koetting Schneider and Sister Lisette Menke.

## NoFest Octoberfest winner of \$2,021



(L to R): Sister Linda Wanner, sister donor representative at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Mankato, Minnesota, presents Jan and Jerry Terrell with the NoFest winner's check.

### Please remember SSND in your will.

Make a planned gift to the sisters. Please contact Mary Kay Murray at 262-787-1037 or [mmurray@ssndcp.org](mailto:mmurray@ssndcp.org). Those who remember SSND in their estate plans are recognized as Blessed Theresa Society members, honoring their extraordinary generosity. Visit: [www.ssndcp.org/planned-giving](http://www.ssndcp.org/planned-giving).

Learn more about upcoming events at:  
[www.ssndcp.org/events22](http://www.ssndcp.org/events22)

## Called to Action: SSNDCP Podcast Season 2 is now available!

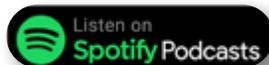


**Called to Action** Season 2, a School Sisters of Notre Dame Central Pacific Province podcast, is now available. You may listen through our [website](http://www.ssndcp.org/podcast) [<http://www.ssndcp.org/podcast>] or find us on Apple Podcasts or Spotify. By subscribing to Apple Podcasts and Spotify, you can stay up to date with the latest episode release.

Season 2 takes an in-depth look at what the [Gospel Nonviolence and Just Peace \(GNJP\)](#) and the SSND corporate stance means. This season, Sister Anna Marie Reha, provincial councilor, and Kaitlyn Holdmeyer, communications manager, share riveting

conversations with other sisters, associates and colleagues, who are actively working to create change by living out the mission of GNJP.

Subscribe to our podcast, **Called to Action**, through Apple Podcasts or Spotify. A new episode is released every other week starting January 5, 2022! If you would like more information, contact [communications@ssndcp.org](mailto:communications@ssndcp.org). |





## From the director of resource development

By Mary Kay Murray, Resource Development

**“It is more blessed to give than to receive.” Acts 20:35**

How blessed we are! This is something that resonates in our lives daily. The sisters feel blessed by your love and support and are humbled by your generosity. Our donors feel blessed because of what the sisters have taught them, and credit much of their successes to them. Hundreds of ministries and thousands of people

have been impacted positively by the sisters. These ministries continue to serve as a legacy to the work of the sisters and to your family’s legacy of sharing and partnering with us.

We are grateful that so many of you are able to share a portion of your bounty with us. We appreciate that you walk with us in faith, hope and love.

Thank you!

The financial picture outlining

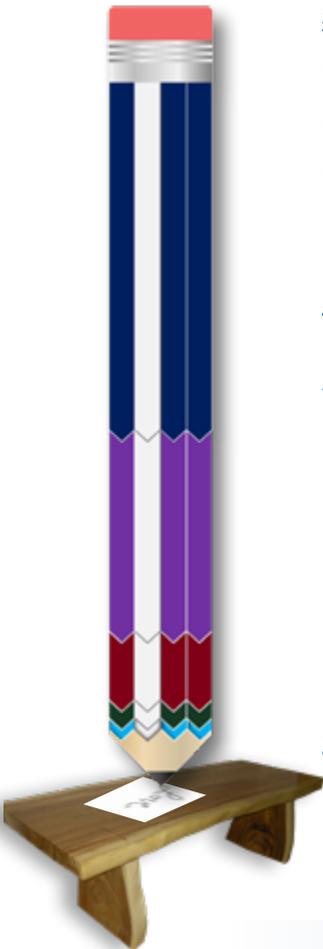
how we used your gifts this past year is provided. We prayerfully extend our partnership.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Kay Murray, resource development director, 262-787-1037 or [mmurray@ssndcp.org](mailto:mmurray@ssndcp.org).

## 2020-2021 Stewardship Report

### Sources of Income

### How Gifts Were Used

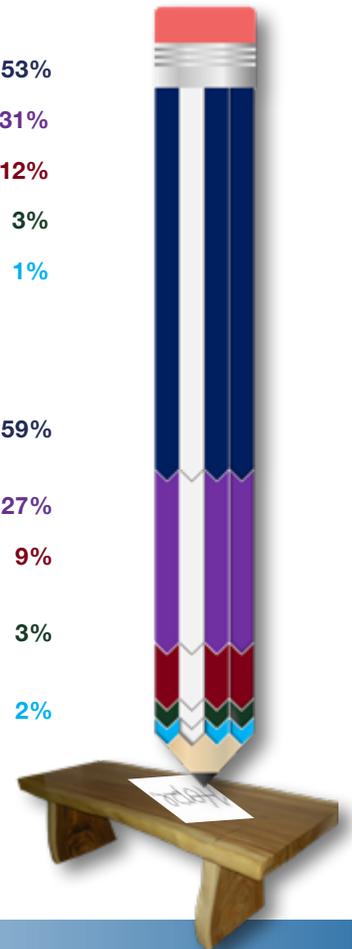


#### SOURCES OF INCOME

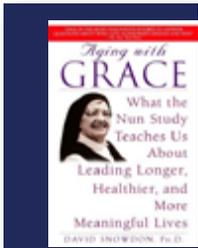
n Individuals	\$3,014,940	53%
n Bequests	\$1,761,872	31%
n Restricted Gifts	\$723,030	12%
n Special Events	\$158,000	3%
n Grants	\$74,170	1%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$5,732,012</b>	

#### HOW GIFTS WERE USED

n Retirement Needs	\$3,414,210	59%
n Support of Sponsored, Co-Sponsored & Undercompensated Ministries	\$1,530,823	27%
n Pastoral Ministry/Care	\$495,510	9%
n Global Justice & Peace Ministry Work	\$165,651	3%
n Sisters & Associates Formation & Education	\$125,818	2%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$5,732,012</b>	



## Awards and honors



The Global Sisters Report featured the School Sisters of Notre Dame Central Pacific Province in an article on the “**Nun Study**,” which continues to resonate after 20 years. [Read the Global Sisters Report article](#) or <https://bit.ly/2Tr1xFa>.

The Catholic Missourian featured **Sister Kathleen Wegman**, who received the Citizen Recognition Award. Each year the Missouri Catholic Conference honors a Catholic individual from each of the state’s four dioceses who has exemplified Catholic values, promoting those values in public policy, their local community and church parishes. Read the Catholic Missourian article, “[Sr. Kathleen Wegman SSND receives Citizen Recognition Award](#)” or <https://bit.ly/3EoHCJK>.



**Sister Marianne Kempa** received a Vatican II Award for Service to the Church. The Vatican II Awards were established in 1991 to honor men, women and young adults who exemplify the Catholic Church’s vision set forth in the Second Vatican Council. She is the first SSND to receive this award in that category and the fourth SSND to receive a Vatican II Award. To learn more visit the [Archdiocese of Milwaukee’s website](#) or <https://www.archmil.org/Our-Faith/Vatican2Awards.htm>.

**Sister Christina Marie Frick** spends two days a week teaching religion to children who attend public school in Teutopolis, Illinois. At 81-years-old, she continues to find joy in teaching young children. She has been teaching so long that many of her original students now have children and grandchildren of their own. To learn more read the Catholic Times article, “[Longtime catechist finds joy in teaching](#)” or <https://ct.dio.org/item/5297-longtime-catechist-finds-joy-in-teaching.html>.



Bishop Shawn McKnight bestowed the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice, otherwise known as the Cross of Honor, the highest papal honor possible for a lay person to **Sister Jean Dietrich**. The honor was established in 1888, and is awarded to clergy or lay people for their distinguished service to the Roman Catholic Church. To learn more read the News Tribune article, “[Local educators receive papal honors](#)” or <https://www.newstribune.com/news/local/story/2021/oct/15/local-educators-receive-papal-honors/892538/>.

**Sister Kathleen Eggering** was one of the panelists for “[Exploring Intersections: Catholic Sisters on Racism, Migration and Climate](#)” [or <https://exploringintersections.org/2021/11/10/november-restorative-justice/>]. The topic was Restorative Justice. Victims of crime often find forgiveness too raw to reach, as the sense of injustice outweighs the act of turning one’s cheek. For the perpetrator, the sense of injustice is equally strong; living in a world beyond one’s control, where societal standards hold no applicable meaning. Restorative Justice seeks to balance the judicial scales with an organized approach and open dialogue between the victim and the criminal. By achieving resolution between the two, harmony is created within the community.





"Precious and blessed is the death of the faithful before God. . . for they die in union with their dear Jesus, in the grace of God, in peace."

~Blessed Theresa Gerhardinger,  
Letter #11, September 10, 1831

## January

**Mary Luke Baldwin**  
*Elm Grove, Wisconsin*

**Ruth Karnitz**  
*Elm Grove, Wisconsin*

**Cynthia Brinkman**  
Formerly Louis de  
**Montfort**  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

**Mary Josephe Misevicz**  
*Elm Grove, Wisconsin*

**Margaret Elsen**  
*Elm Grove, Wisconsin*

## February

**M. Justin Wirth**  
*Mankato, Minnesota*

**Mary Johnalyn Witkowski**  
*Elm Grove, Wisconsin*

**Mary Fidelis Kono**  
*Kyoto, Japan*

**Deanne Stratmann**  
Formerly Richard  
**Maureen**  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

**M. Thomasette Pittari**  
*Covington, Louisiana*

## March

**Lydia Marie Borja**  
*Greenfield, Wisconsin*

**Lee Anne Farrell**  
Formerly Alonza Marie  
*St. Louis, Missouri*

## April

**Alice Mary Druffel**  
Formerly Hilda Marie  
*Mankato, Minnesota*

**Mary Frederick Keller**  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

**M. Maura Endo**  
*Kyoto, Japan*

**Beth Haltiner**  
Formerly Mary Paul  
*Mankato, Minnesota*

## May

**Mary Joyce Pietsch**  
*Mankato, Minnesota*

**M. Richelle Williams**  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

**Rose E. Schwab**  
Formerly Mary Conrad  
*Mankato, Minnesota*

**Teresa Marie Hinrichs**  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

**Patricia Wamser**  
Formerly M. Helen Robert  
*Covington, Louisiana*

## June

**Judith Marie Jung**  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

## July

**Jean Arthur Laubach**  
*Elm Grove, Wisconsin*

## August

**Barbara Bacak**  
Formerly M. Laura  
*Covington, Louisiana*

## September

**Mary Leona Matsushima**  
*Kyoto, Japan*

**Mary Karen Tachibana**  
*Kyoto, Japan*

**Regina Marie Grohman**  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

## October

**Catherine Ann (Kate)**  
**Kallhoff**  
*Mankato, Minnesota*

**Marie Virginia Strubhart**  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

**Rosemary Hufker**  
Formerly Mary Christine  
*St. Louis, Missouri*

**Rose Ann Bacak**  
Formerly Mary Benjamin  
*Covington, Louisiana*

**Barbara Boedeker**  
Formerly Francella Marie  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

**Elizabeth Morgan**  
Formerly Mary Caroline  
*Covington, Louisiana*

## November

**Adele Marie Hofschulte**  
*Greenfield, Wisconsin*

**Rosemary Schuneman**  
Formerly George Ann  
*Mankato, Minnesota*

## December

**Marie Chaminade Zimmerle**  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

**Mary Dominic Klaseus**  
*Mankato, Minnesota*

**Cordula Wekenborg**  
*Bridgeton, Missouri*

View obituary profiles at:  
[www.ssndcp.org/obit](http://www.ssndcp.org/obit).



School Sisters of Notre Dame  
Central Pacific Province

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## Our Mission

is to proclaim the good news as School Sisters of Notre Dame, directing our entire lives toward that oneness for which Jesus Christ was sent.

*You Are Sent*, Constitution of the School Sisters of Notre Dame

Love Gives Everything, Directional Statement of the 24th General Chapter, 2017

## Join us for upcoming Resource Development Events!



Learn more at: [www.ssndcp.org/wll-22](http://www.ssndcp.org/wll-22)

### Milwaukee Area

Thursday, March 3, 2022  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**"A Title is Not a Leader"**

**Eve M. Hall, Ph.D.**  
President and CEO,  
Milwaukee Urban League

### St. Louis Area

Monday, March 7, 2022  
St. Louis, Missouri

**"My Calling: The COVID-19  
Pandemic"**

**Aamina B. Akhtar, M.D.**  
Chief Medical Officer,  
Mercy Hospital South

**"Leading Through the  
Pandemic and Into the Future"**

**Marsha Benney**  
Chief Financial Officer,  
Midwest BankCentre"

### Dallas Area

Tuesday, March 22, 2022  
Dallas, Texas

**"Graced Leadership:  
Women's Unique Response  
to Urgent Needs"**

**Mayra J. Thompson, M.D.**  
F.A.C.O.G

Professor, Obstetrics and  
Gynecology, Private Practice

### St. Paul Area

Wednesday, March 23, 2022  
St. Paul, Minnesota

**"Leading through Shaky  
Times: Leaning on the Power  
of Relationships"**

**Jody Nelson**  
Executive Director,  
Change Inc.

**\* All CDC guidelines  
and safety measures for  
COVID-19 will be observed  
at the time of the event.**

CONNECT WITH US!

