

INTRODUCING THE 2011-2016 LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR THE U.S.-ONTARIO PROVINCE



Front Row: Sr. Marcia Frideger and Sr. Mary Ellen Holohan
Back Row: Sr. Kathleen Hilton, Sr. Jane Hibbard, Sr. Mariellen Blaser

Sister Marcia Frideger left Holy Names University in California to begin a term in leadership ministry which started in January. Profiles of the team members will be featured in a future publication.

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Many Voices - One Mission

Our foundress, Blessed Marie Rose, was attentive and responsive to the spiritual, social, and educational needs of her time. Our role, as Sisters of the Holy Names, Associates and volunteers, is to keep her charism alive within the ever changing realities of our world and times.

"In the heart of this marvelous woman, Marie-Rose Durocher, burned a fire of love which spread and has not ceased to give light and warmth to many corners of the universe." Hermance Baril, SNJM

Moved by the fire that was in her heart, we serve diverse cultures through a broad range of ministries with a common mission—to help others meet their full development as human persons by providing opportunities for education and spiritual and emotional growth.

Cast Fire! Liberate Life!

I have come to cast fire on the earth and would that it were already kindled.
~Luke 12:49



Honoring 15 Years of Ministry at Santee Mission in East San Jose

"We want our shared prayer life to flow into civic action that will improve all aspects of life for the people in the Santee area." - Sisters in Ministry at Santee Mission

In July 1995, at the invitation of **Father Kevin Joyce**, then pastor of **St. Maria Goretti Parish**, **Sisters Martha Bendorf** and **Guadalupe Maria Johnston** moved into an apartment in the Santee area. They were joined in 1996 by **Sr. Catherine Irene Thoeni** and in 1997 by **Sr. Miriam Daniel Fahey**, who became coordinator of the Santee Mission. The presence of the Sisters was a catalyst for change in the neighborhood. The Sisters actively participated in local neighborhood meetings. They listened to their neighbors' expressed needs—for religious education classes, liturgies, ways to combat the violence and drug traffic in the neighborhood, and a library where children could read and the people could meet—and they responded. Fifteen years later, the ministry at Santee is still going strong, in part because of the Sisters' ability to invite others to partner with them in their ministry.

After Sister Martha moved to the Convent in Los Gatos, the library she started was renovated and expanded by volunteers from **Sacred Heart Parish in Saratoga**. In her memory, they named the library **Sister Martha's Book Garden**. They staff the library daily under the direction of **Sandy Sifferman** and **Pam Parker**.



Sr. Guadalupe (second row left) & the liturgical music group

The Religious Education Program is currently staffed by certified lay people, some of whom have worked with the Sisters since the beginning of the program. **Sr. Dorothy Simpson** (from the Convent at Los Gatos) volunteers with the program on Saturdays.

Sunday Mass continues to be a focal point in bringing the Santee Community together for prayer, socialization, and fundraising. Under the guidance of Sr. Catherine Irene, preparation classes were started for lay participation in the Sunday liturgy and a liturgical music group began. Today, Sr. Guadalupe Maria continues this ministry, coordinating the liturgies and directing the music group. (Continued on page3)

Honoring 15 Years continued from page 2

The Sisters' ability to involve others in ministry at Santee is evidenced in many ways:

- ◆ At Christmas and Easter, **Sr. Dorothy Nolan** and children and parents from **Saint Joseph School in Cupertino** bring gifts and new clothes and enjoy a celebration prepared by the women of Santee Mission.
- ◆ Once a month, volunteers from **St. Mary's Parish in Los Gatos** conduct a Sunday health program. They provide blood pressure checks, hypertension and diabetes screening, wellness education and referrals to nearby clinics as needed. RN volunteers include **Marcia Green, Roberta Robbins, Barbara Morrissey, Virginia McQuaid, Helen Stone, and Tess Johnson**. **Dr. Carol Cooke** provides the necessary supplies.
- ◆ Each year, **St. Mary's Youth Group** donates school supplies and sweatshirts for the children.
- ◆ The **first grade at St. Mary's School** collected new books for the library. (Photo of class & Sr. Mary Becker)



Of the four foundresses, Sr. Guadalupe Maria is still at Santee Mission. Sr. Martha Bendorf is deceased. Sr. Catherine Irene and Sr. Miriam Daniel moved to the Los Gatos Convent where they continue to support the people and projects through their contacts, interest and prayer.

Sr. Guadalupe Maria is joined by **Sr. Mary Becker**. Together, they form a team that coordinates religious education, liturgical and social justice ministries. Sr. Mary is a licensed clinical social worker and brings her experiences in social service programs and as school social worker in California and Nicaragua to this ministry. Her focus is expanding lay leadership in all existing programs, integrating faith formation with

family life principles and increasing parent involvement in all programs touching the lives of the children.

The Sisters have developed, and continue to develop, lay leadership and partnership within the ministries through their mentoring and example. This ministry in Santee Mission beautifully exemplifies the saying "it takes a village"—a village of committed people who continue to transform a neighborhood with their presence, prayers, gifts and talents.



Sister Mary Grace (top right) and other Family Support Center Volunteers

Sr. Mary Grace Dykzeul Volunteer, Family Support Center, St. Polycarp Parish, Stanton, CA

I love working in the Center. We are all volunteers—mostly women who have retired from their jobs—and we have formed beautiful friendships. Some of us are fluent in Spanish and we are fortunate to have helpers who speak Vietnamese.

I am the oldest on the team and at times don't have the same energy as others but I am always made to feel like an integral part of the team. I humbly admit everyone loves having a religious among them, but it is really I who am the lucky one.

The Center provides information to people looking for financial help, housing, and medical needs. It offers lunches, food supplies, clothing, blankets and toiletries. A few months ago we gave out lunches and food to about 30 people. Now the number has doubled. ALL are welcome and treated with respect and concern. I believe Mother Marie Rose would appreciate the culture of hospitality here and feel very much at home in our midst. (St. Polycarp Parish: 8100 Chapman Ave. Stanton, CA 90680 www.stpolycarp.org)

SNJM Takes a Corporate Stand Against Human Trafficking

The Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary stands in support of human rights by opposing the trafficking in women and children for purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor.

We will educate ourselves and others regarding the magnitude, causes and consequences of this abuse, both wherever we are missioned and throughout the world.

Throughout our international congregation, Holy Names Sisters and Associates are participating in UNAMINA and other NGOs that are working to STOP THE DEMAND. We are:

- ◆ Educating others
- ◆ Advocating for anti-trafficking legislation
- ◆ Supporting the U.N. agenda on anti-trafficking
- ◆ Working to reduce poverty
- ◆ Identifying goods produced by modern slaves
- ◆ Praying for the trafficked and traffickers

During the 2010 U.S.-Ontario Provincial Chapter in Portland, Oregon, SNJM Sisters, Associates, ministry partners and friends, joined with other religious congregations in downtown Shemanski Park for a prayer vigil and public witness against human trafficking.

Some other activities of the California Sisters and Associates:

- ◆ **Sr. Susan Maloney** led an in-service for the faculty at Ramona Convent Secondary School
- ◆ **Associate, Pat Iwata** arranged training for *End Human Trafficking Coalition of the Sierras* (EHTCS)
- ◆ **Srs. Sharon Francis** and **Kathleen McDonough** planned a symposium "Break It - Link to Human Trafficking" that took place in Southern California in January
- ◆ **Stop Slavery**, the *Northern California Coalition of Catholic Sisters*, lobbied in support of SB657, the California Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010. The bill was signed into law Sept. 30, 2010.

Visit www.snjmusontario.org/justice-peace.html to learn more about SNJM justice and peace efforts.



Sr. Cecilia with an anti-trafficking sign in Spanish

Meet Our Newest Associates



SNJM Associates are women and men, married or single, who want to deepen their commitment to God and to become active in ministry with the Sisters.

Associate commitment is a relationship of shared charism and mission without canonical vows.

This association fosters the sharing of prayers, ministry and lived experience, which enriches and supports both the Associates and Sisters.

To learn more, visit:
www.snjmusontario.org/associates.html

Front L-R: **Cynthia Angell**, **Anne Lagorio** (Weaverville, CA) **Sabina Gotuaco** (Daly City, CA) **Marie Feeney** (Las Vegas, NV)
Back Row L-R: **Michael & Margot Tobener** (Cloverdale, CA), **Katherine (Kay) Krause** (Pacifica, CA)

Extreme Website MAKEOVER

The SNJM California website www.snjmca.org has received an extreme makeover. The site focuses on Holy Names Sisters, who live in or have ties to California, and our “lay partners in ministry”—Associates, donors, and volunteers. For a broader view, you can follow links to information about SNJMs in the U.S.-Ontario Province and around the world.

Visit www.snjmca.org and you can learn about our history and ministries in California, read back issues of PERSPECTIVES, view slide shows of photos from events, and read tributes to our deceased Sisters. You can also sign up for our e-newsletter and make a donation online using a credit card. We hope you enjoy visiting this website to keep up-to-date with the SNJMs. But, that’s not the only news. Check out Sisters of the Holy Names, U.S.-Ontario Province on FACEBOOK!

Volunteers in Action - Christmas Stuffing

It takes a large crew to stuff over eleven thousand envelopes with the Christmas letter, paper ornaments, and return envelope that we mail to our many friends and benefactors at Christmas time. Yet, it is a labor of love for the volunteers and Sisters who come back year after year to help. The volunteers and Sisters enjoy each other’s company and seem to have a merry time while they work. Many make a game of trying to best their previous year’s time. See more photos on our improved website www.snjmca.org



Community Recognition



Sister Cynthia Canning and Sister Rosemary Delaney were honored with a **CBS Bay Area Jefferson Award**. The Sisters are two of the co-founders of **Next Step Learning Center** in Oakland, CA. In Oakland, 40% of high school students don’t graduate. In 1994, Sisters Cynthia and Rosemary made it their mission to improve that situation. They helped raise over 2 million dollars in grants and donations to start the West Oakland center. Next Step matches about 100 adults, 17 years or older, with 60 volunteers for free one-on-one tutoring. Most get their GED and some have gone on to succeed in college.



Sister Anne Dinneen was one of four honorees recognized for service to the community by the **Diocesan Catholic Campaign for Human Development** during its 2010 annual lunch. Sister Anne received an award for her *“50 years of compassionate ministry as an SNJM, and for her years of dedicated service on the local Campaign for Human Development committee.”*

Earlier in the year, Sr. Anne received one of four **Children’s Choice Awards** bestowed by **Saint Vincent’s Day Home**, where she has been a volunteer since the 1970s. She was honored for her life’s work in the field of Early Childhood Education and acknowledged for *“the profound difference she has brought to the Day Home.”*



Sister Miriam Daniel Fahey received a **City of San Jose Commendation** from the mayor. *“For over 14 years Sr. Miriam Daniel has faithfully ministered to the spiritual, emotional, educational and political needs of the Santee Community...As a member of People Acting in Community Together, she helped rally community members to go to Superior Court to bring injunctions against absentee landlords and help communities and individuals fight injustice. Her innate leadership, compassion and strong community values have allowed her to work closely with Police and City staff to create a stronger and safer neighborhood: reducing drug and crime presence, providing moral training for hundreds of youth, and helping to revitalize the neighborhood overall.”*

SNJM Partners in Mission - Planned Giving Donors, Anita & Norb Waldron



Norb and Anita Waldron
with their son, Vincent and daughter, Elizabeth

“ Early in our marriage we reflected on the impact these communities had on our lives. They helped shape who we are and how we live our lives individually, and as a couple.

It was at this point that it seemed natural to participate in the Planned Giving program for both of our communities and we continue to contribute to support the mission of the SNJM community.”

*“...For finally, it is not a matter of reason;
finally it is a matter of love.”*

~A Man for All Seasons

“I believe what impressed me most about the sisters when I attended Holy Names High School in the early 70’s, was how dedicated and innovative they were as teachers. They were already integrating the best teaching practices in the field of 9-12 education—that usually take years to implement. Sisters Donna Maynard and Mary Anderson combined English and history classes, team taught, and used techniques that truly engaged students. Our orchestra, under the leadership of Sr. Helen Keefe, rocked as did our school choir taught by Diane Gilfether. Religion teacher, Sr. Marcia Frideger, and psychology teacher Sr. Diane Enos were up against the turbulent ‘70’s yet were always willing to listen to us and deal with our growing pains in non-judgmental ways. I spent many a day in the office of Sr. Rita Caulfield, dean at the time, who was there for me in so many ways.” ~ Anita Forese Waldron

A year after high school Anita entered the SNJM community and spent the next nine years in formation and teaching at St. Cecilia and St. Bede schools. There were other callings for Anita, and in 1983 she married Norb Waldron who had been in the Franciscan community until the mid-70’s.

Anita and Norb live in Oakland and are active members of St. Theresa Parish. Anita teaches in the San Leandro Unified School District. She has served on WASC teams for the Diocese of Oakland and School Boards at St. Theresa and HNHS. Norb is a supervisor for UPS. Their children attended St. Theresa School. Elizabeth graduated from Holy Names High School in 2004. She will receive a Master’s degree in Health Psychology in May and pursue a PhD in Clinical Psychology in the Fall. Vincent is a medic for the 1st Infantry Division in the Army and recently deployed to Afghanistan.

Donor, Lorraine “Larry” Paine - *“The Lord has blessed me and I can bless someone else.”*



Lorraine has had a connection with the Sisters since 1959, when she was actively involved in St. Mary’s School and Parish. As a mother of 4 children, John, Jeffrey, Jim and Mary, she fondly remembers many of the teachers at St. Mary’s. *“The Sisters were fantastic educators. They worked hard with my children and gave them a strong education. I have great love and gratitude for the Sisters.”*

Lorraine was one of the original members of the Los Gatos Marie Rose Guild. She enjoyed cooking meals for the luncheons, helping with the boutiques, and working with the Sisters on various projects. Though she lives in Roseville now, Lorraine continues her membership with the Los Gatos chapter and supports their activities from a distance.

She still keeps in contact with the Sisters through cards, phone calls and visits. *“The Sisters mean so much to me. I am grateful for their dedication to God and their ministry. They have been very thoughtful and considerate of me and my family through the years—praying for us through good and very difficult times—and a blessing to us in so many ways. The Sisters have a very special place in my heart and prayers ... everyday.”*

Through her financial gifts and prayers, in partnership with the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, Lorraine has indeed been a blessing to so many others.

Become a **SUSTAINING DONOR!**

Sustaining donors are the lifeblood of our organization. They are monthly or quarterly donors who become important partners in providing for Sisters of the Holy Names' retirement needs and sustaining our Sisters in ministry through our general operating fund. Sustaining donors are the foundation of our giving program and are especially remembered by the Sisters throughout the year:

- ◆ Remembrance in prayer at daily Mass in the convent chapel
- ◆ Special cards throughout the year
- ◆ Limited edition Christmas remembrances

As a sustaining donor, you are partnering with us in furthering our ministry—through education, retirement care, parish and social work. Wherever there is a Holy Names Sister your gifts are making a difference!

Ways you can give:

- ◆ Send your gift in a monthly envelope sent directly to you
- ◆ Send your gift through the monthly check program from your bank
- ◆ Use your credit card and the “donate now” button on our website www.snjmca.org
- ◆ Contact Sister Kathryn Ondreyco 408-395-0259 or email her at kondreyco@snjmuson.org

IT's BACK!

IRA Rollover Available Through 2011

Congress has taken the following important and favorable actions with respect to the popular tax-free IRA Charitable Rollover that allows taxpayers 70 ½ and older to make direct tax-free transfers to a charity from a qualified individual retirement account:

- ◆ Extends the option for making tax-free transfers to charity to December 31, 2011.
- ◆ Any tax-free charitable transfer rollover up to \$100,000 counts to satisfy the taxpayer's minimum required distribution for that year.

To learn more, contact Sister Kathryn Ondreyco 408-395-0259 or send email to kondreyco@snjmuson.org

In Loving Memory † Entered Into Eternal Life July 2010 - Jan. 2011



I realize I am asking for a great privilege by requesting to join the Sisters of the Holy Names, but I hope by God's grace to serve Him generously and thus express my appreciation for this priceless favor. ~Catherine McLean 1936

Sister Mary Seraphica McLean
(Catherine Jane)
December 31, 1914 - July 9, 2010

To learn more about a deceased Sister visit www.snjmca.org and select Remembering Our Sisters from the What's Happening pull-down menu



I am praying with joy, in my every prayer for all of you.
~Philippians 1

Sister M. Paul Gerard Gustafson
(Wilma Gustafson)
Sept. 13, 1926 - Sept. 24, 2010



God is like the music of a harp touching deep within each soul awakening a song of love to God.
~ Sr. Mary Nessi

Sister Mary Theresa Nessi
(Sr. Mary Theophane)
Nov. 19, 1919 - Oct. 23, 2010



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DATED MATERIAL



Sr. Gabriel Kennedy and Sr. Nora Christian hanging your ornaments

SAVE THE DATES

Strawberry Lunch & Boutique
May 12

Annual Benefit Dinner
September 16

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