

# Vision

Sisters of Charity of New York • Now in Our Third Century of Living Lives of Love • Vol. 27 ISSUE 1

## Together In Charity



### Council Recommendation

The Council recommends and asks the Assembly to affirm that we, Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul of New York, will continue to live our mission to the fullest, while acknowledging that we are on a path to completion.



SUMMER 2023/EXPANDED EDITION





## From the President

Dear *Vision* Readers,

**We're delighted to announce that we're back!** We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your patience and understanding during the past year. It has been a period of significant organizational changes as we prepared for our historic joint General Assembly with the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth.

Looking ahead, we are excited to share that we will now be publishing *Vision* twice a year, ensuring that you receive your next edition of *Vision* at the beginning of the New Year. In order to also ensure that our readers feel fully informed and connected, we have taken extra care to make this edition slightly longer than usual.

The purpose of this lengthier edition is not only to address the recent announcements made by the Sisters of Charity of New York following the General Assembly in April regarding membership and completion, but also to shine a spotlight on the incredible ministries we have in place that will continue to thrive. Our devoted Sisters remain steadfast and committed. We have important years of planning and work ahead, alongside the responsibility of bringing you future editions of *Vision*.

With hope in our hearts, unwavering faith in our God, and bound together in Charity, we invite you to join us on this journey forward.

Blessings,

Sister Donna Dodge

### Cover photo captions:

*Top:* The Sisters of Charity of New York unanimously vote during discreet session at the 2023 joint General Assembly on the Congregation's path to completion.

*Bottom left:* Opening procession for afternoon mass led by our Sisters from Guatemala.

*Bottom Middle:* Convent Station, Morristown, NJ.

*Bottom right:* Many Sisters from both Congregations provided vocal and instrumental accompaniment for our General Assembly mass and prayer service.

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## Together in Charity General Assembly 2023

In an historic first, the Sisters of Charity of New York joined the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth for a joint General Assembly, in Convent Station, NJ. The six-day gathering included a full schedule of both joint and discreet sessions, daily mass, and evening social activities such as karaoke, line dancing and a special performance by the New Jersey Tenors.

It was here, in a discreet session, that the Sisters of Charity of New York voted to no longer accept new members and to begin the planning for our Congregation's path to completion (See page 3). It was also here that Sisters and Associates from both Congregations came together to identify and discuss four areas of ministry collaboration opportunities for the next four years including: Charism, Homelessness, Climate Change, and Immigration.

The joint General Assembly marked a significant moment of collaboration and unity between the two congregations. "By joining forces, we can amplify our impact and bring about meaningful change in the areas of Charism, Homelessness, Climate Change, and Immigration," said Sister Donna Dodge.

The General Assembly concluded with one of the most important moments of the week, the elections for both Congregations' Executive Councils.

For the Sisters of Charity of New York, Sister Donna Dodge was reelected as President, Sister Margaret O'Brien and Sister Mary Mc Cormick, Assistants to the President, and Sister Mary Ann Daly, Sister Sheila Brosnan and Sister Margaret Egan were elected as Councilors. The newly elected Council members expressed their gratitude for the trust placed in them and their commitment to leading the congregation through this transitional period.

Similarly, the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth elected their new Executive Council; Sister Maureen Shaughnessy was elected as General Superior, Sister Cecilia McManus, Assistant General Superior, and Sister Maryanne Campeotto and Sister Ellen Farrell were elected as Councilors. The newly elected Leadership team expressed their dedication to continuing the mission and charism of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth.



*Sisters Margaret M. O'Brien, SCNY, Mary Ann Daly, SCNY, Cecilia McManus, SCNJ, Donna Dodge, SCNY, Maureen Shaughnessy, SCNJ, Mary E. Mc Cormick, SCNY, Margaret Egan, SCNY, Ellen Farrell, SCNJ, Maryanne Campeotto, SCNJ, Sheila Brosnan, SCNY*

Sisters and Associates left the 2023 General Assembly with a renewed sense of purpose and a commitment to continue their ministries with passion and dedication. As we embarked on our respective paths, the Sisters of Charity of New York and the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth knew that our shared values and mission would continue to guide us, even as we faced new challenges and opportunities.

The joint General Assembly was not only an historic event, but a testament to the enduring spirit of the Sisters of Charity. As we move forward, we recognize we carry with us the legacy of our founders and the countless lives they have touched. With hearts full of gratitude and hope, we embrace the future, knowing that their work will continue to make a difference in the world.



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PRESS RELEASE

April 27, 2023

## The Sisters of Charity of New York Vote on Congregation's Path to Completion

*"I resign the present and the future to Him who is the author and conductor of both."*  
-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Foundress of the Sisters of Charity of New York

After a long and prayerful discernment process leading up to The Sisters of Charity of New York's 2023 General Assembly, delegates voted unanimously on April 13, 2023 to accept the following recommendations from our Congregation's Executive Council:

The Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul of New York will no longer work toward finding nor accepting new members to our Congregation, in the United States. However, because we believe in the future of religious life, we will continue to promote vocations, and redirect inquiries to Federation congregations and/or to the Religious Formation Conference.

The Council asks the Assembly to affirm that we, Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul of New York, continue to live our mission to the fullest, while acknowledging that we are on a path to completion.

The decision was not an easy one. Currently there are 154 Sisters of Charity of New York. We will continue to grow in love. We will continue to deepen our relationships with each other, with our Associates and with our ministry partners. We will continue to deepen our relationship with our God.

After more than 200 years of service for the Church, the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul of New York will continue to pass the torch of charity. This is not the end of our ministries. Our mission will continue beyond our Sisters, through our Associates and partners in ministry, expanding what it means to live the charism of charity into the future.

For questions contact: SCNY Communications Dept. [extcomm@scny.org](mailto:extcomm@scny.org) or [718-879-5245](tel:718-879-5245)

Living Lives of Love

## The Associated Press Comes to Mount Saint Vincent

Within 24 hours after the release of our statement on membership and completion to the press, the Congregation's communications department received a call from the Associated Press requesting an interview with some of our Sisters to learn more about the recent decision.

On May 3, journalist Luis Henao, photographer John Mochinillo, and videographer David Martin spent their day interviewing Sisters Donna Dodge, Dorothy Metz, Sheila Brosnan, Margaret Egan, Margaret O'Brien, and Claire Regan about the Community's plans for the future.

**"It was a difficult choice, but we believe it is the right one for our community. We have reached a point where we need to focus on ensuring the well-being of our current members and preserving the legacy of our order."**  
-Sister Donna Dodge



Journalists from the Associated Press interview SCNY's Leadership team at LeGras.

**"While it is heartbreaking to think that there won't be new members joining us, we have faith that our work will continue through the countless lives we have touched and the values we have instilled in others."** - Sister Dorothy Metz

**"We are committed to finding ways to sustain our ministries and partnerships, even as our numbers decline. Our mission is not ending; it is evolving."**  
- Sister Sheila Brosnan

**"We are grateful for the support we have received over the years, and we hope that others will continue to carry on the work we have started. Together, we can make a lasting impact."**  
- Sister Margaret Egan

**"Not only did I receive the response of community and love and charity, but also God's wisdom and grace to take this time to pause and to recognize in my personal story of what is completion."**  
- Sister Claire E. Regan



Associated Press interview concludes in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at Mount Saint Vincent.

**"In decades past, operating the order's hospitals and schools afforded the Sisters leadership opportunities that were off limits to women elsewhere in society"**  
- Sister Margaret M. O'Brien

As the interview concluded, the Leadership team expressed their gratitude to the Associated Press for giving them the opportunity to share their story. They hoped that their decision would inspire others to reflect on their own lives and consider how they can make a difference in the world.

On May 9, the Associated Press' profile on the Sisters of Charity of New York was published, quickly becoming worldwide news. The article also includes a video story and picture gallery from the day's interview.

(To read the publication from the Associated Press, visit: [bit.ly/APNEWSSCNY](https://bit.ly/APNEWSSCNY))



SCNY's Leadership Team are all smiles following an unforgettable day with the Associated Press.



After the Sisters of Charity of New York announced to the press our recent decisions on membership and completion, the response from the public was overwhelming.

**jamesmartinsj** Dear friends: The Sisters of Charity of New York have decided that they will no longer accept new members, and have accepted the "path of completion." I find this sad but also deeply moving. Years ago, I told a Catholic sister how sad that I found these endings. She said, "No, Jim, it's like a life well lived. We were called into this world by God to serve a purpose and now our time has ended."

Please pray in thanksgiving for the generous, gracious and selfless contributions that the Sisters of Charity of New York have made to this world, faithful in their following Jesus Christ and the charism of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac.

Sisters are my heroes.

**Carol Regan** on May 4, 2023 at 11:24 am

Our small United States Province of our international congregation is on the same journey toward completion as the Sisters of Charity of New York. We send the Sisters our affirmation of their courage and honesty, our thanks for their decades of ministry and witness, our promise of prayerful support.

The Holy Union Sisters Province Leadership Team: Kathleen Corrigan, SUSC, Joan Guertin, SUSC, Carol Regan, SUSC

**Fr. Vincent Hevern, SJ** on April 27, 2023 at 11:08 am

Your work in education for me and my elementary classmates at Saint Emeric School (1954-1962) provided a foundation of excellence and religious fundamentals that have stayed with me in the many decades since. I was privileged to have had Charity sisters in 7 of the 8 grades at SES. I look on your work with profound gratitude and will continue to offer my prayers for the living and deceased members of the congregation. Fr. Vincent Hevern, SJ

**Brother David Migliorino, OSF ( John Migliorino, class of 1963 Epiphany School)**

on April 27, 2023 at 10:23 am

God Bless each and every Sister of Charity of New York who inspired me to my vocation. Almighty God has a great plan for you dear Sisters. Be certain of my gratitude for all you will continue to do for the Mission of Charity among us. With great admiration and love, Brother David

**Stephen Ryan**

Beautiful Fr. Jim! As a New Yorker, and a kid from the West Village, we were fortunate to get to know many of the Sisters and there amazing ministries! God bless them all!!

I agree, Sisters are my heroes too!!

**Bro. Tom Barton, OSF** on May 2, 2023 at 5:09 pm

On one of my visits to St Vincent's Hosp, Manhattan, there was a plaque mentioning that the survivors of the Titanic were treated at St. Vincent's after their rescue.

My experience as an inexperienced social worker at the beginning of the HIV epidemic was through training at Brookdale Center and St. Vincent's Hospital. These humane, generous and fearless people, Sisters of Charity and colleagues, stepped in front of this horrendous medical calamity and brought kindness and loving compassion to these victims at a time when they were elsewhere scorned, denied medical service and evoked fear. The loss of St. Vincent's was sad. The completion of the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent DePaul is a significant loss. Yet, they did what the Lord called them to do, and that is enough. Peace.



**Sherryl White CsJ**

6h · 🌐

It has been one of my most profound moments of privilege and grace to facilitate the General Assembly for the New York Sisters of Charity when they made this courageous and faith-filled choice to embrace completion and to stop receiving vocations. A historical giant in religious life, they continue their legacy of leadership and challenge, facing realities in order to fully live what is still theirs to embrace. The world will hear from SCNY for many years to come! I could not be more proud of them than I am today! This is a time for congratulations, not condolences. Treasure your past memories of SCNY, but stay tuned and connected for the life that is theirs to live! SCNY believes in and embodies Paschal Mystery. SCNY is alive and well!!

In the days that followed, the Congregation received an outpouring of support through calls, letters, emails, and comments on our website and social media platforms.

**Janine Robinson**

The Sisters of Charity have a distinguished history caring for marginalized individuals throughout their history - from cholera victims in NYC, to the early days of the AIDS epidemic, and so much more. Thank you sisters for your mission of compassionate service - may your history never be forgotten.

**Adele Sandy Porter Pascucci**

I am a graduate of St. Mary's School in Yonkers class of '61 and Elizabeth Seton College class of '67. My mother was a graduate of St. Mary's School class of '39. Thank you to the Sisters of Charity for being part of making me the woman I am. Your legacy is eternal. Thank you and God bless you for all you have done and all you will continue to do. 🙏❤️

**Barbara Vainio**

So sad to see this. I can't imagine how hard that decision was. Although I'm not Catholic, the Sisters of Charity were part of my life through my Catholic friends and the Sisters' presence in the neighborhood. I pray that their mission continues as they want it to.

**Lorraine Weberg**

Sisters, you have my eternal gratitude for an education that included beautiful penmanship, the ability to spell, a love of reading, and the capability to construct and express my thoughts in complete and comprehensible sentences. Saint Elizabeth Seton has truly blessed your work. Thank you.

**Jose Rodriguez**

🥺❤️ I am very saddened by this news. If it wasn't for the sisters of Charity of New York I wouldn't be here today.

**Paul H Colloton**

What a courageous act, dying in one way so as to rise in another. I know of others who are wrestling with this decision and responding in a variety of ways. God is calling us to live as Church in new ways. The time before many of our Congregations gave birth to us and God is making something new in our day. The Spirit keeps acting. May we have the courage of the Sisters of Charity of New York to listen, discern, and act.

**Robert Denstedt**

I am stunned with sorrow words cannot express. The foundation of the Sisters of Charity remains one of the spectacular achievements of the American Catholic Church. How odd it is that today more than ever, our world needs the very work that the Sisters are known for....the homeless, the abandoned, the sick and dying. Your legacy is one of true greatness!

**Bernardine Bochette**

So very sad to read this. I am eternally grateful to these wonderful women for their part in the first 9 years of my education and faith formation. SO many fond memories. Prayers for the Sisters of Charity as you complete your mission.

💎 Top fan

**Terrie Koch**

I went to a college and was educated by sisters of charity. Best nursing instructors. Always looking at the whole person, biological, social and spiritual. I owe a debt of gratitude to them for making me the nurse that I am



**Messages of encouragement and solidarity arrived from people all over the world, expressing their heartfelt sentiments and admiration for the Sisters and their work.**

**Suzy Glespen**

This is sad news, indeed. I was taught by the Sisters for eight years at AMSV and CMSV. They were and still are an inspiration to me. They were most influential in making me who I am today. I will be forever grateful for having had those valiant women in my life.

**Deborah Meister**

I am so saddened to hear this, and grateful for the strength of your long ministry and the ways it will continue in the work of your current sisters and in the many seeds of generosity and hope you have sown and will continue to sow.

**Judy Conti**

I'm sure this was a very difficult decision, but one made prayerfully. The Sisters of Charity have done so much for so many and all of your impact will continue to reverberate for generations to come. I am blessed to have been educated by the good Sisters of Charity at Sacred Heart School on Staten Island.

**Claudia Marin Andrade**

I'm grateful to have been guided, mentored and taught by incredible sister of charity, their mission will live on, in us and our families forever.

**John Gallucci**

What a difficult decision but done with such grace and a broader vision of God's view for the church. Blessings upon the all the sisters. And yes - unfortunately, this is the fate of many religious.

**Jill Harrington**

Sadly, the end of an era. I graduated from Elizabeth Seton and went on to work beside the Sisters of Charity at CMSV for many years. I learned so much from these wonderful women and I wouldn't change a minute. The guidance, love, hope and charity that I learned from them has led me down paths I never could have imagined. I have no doubt that God is making a way for what is next. Sending much love and gratitude to each and every one of you. Your selfless charity has paved the way and is more than appreciated! May God bless you always! ❤️.

💎 Top fan

**Victoria Allen**

What a very sad thing to read. You have contributed so many fine things to the health care and education of those of us in the New York area. I was born at St Vincent's Hospital in June of 1942, and my mother could not say enough about your fine and loving care. You truly live faith, hope and charity in every possible way by bringing good health and education to thousands and thousands of your fellow citizens. Keep us posted on your news and know always that you are in our hearts and minds. May Jesus and His Blessed Mother always be with you.

**The magnitude of the response has truly been humbling. These last several pages of *Vision* have been just a glimpse of the precious gift that has been bestowed upon the Sisters of Charity of New York.**

Dear Beloved Sisters,

Nichiren Daishonin was a 13th century Japanese Buddhist monk who stated the obvious: "Even a turtle, we are told, knows how to repay a debt of gratitude, so how much more so should human beings?" -The Tripitaka Master Shan-wu-wei Goshō (writing)

If people aren't banging on your door to thank you, I know, like me, they are thanking you in their hearts.

I was a student at Cathedral High School and the Sisters of Charity changed my life. You changed it for the better, and those of hundreds of thousands of other students and medical patients. (Don't forget St. Vincent's Hospital, among others!) Your goodness has created a major ripple effect. Your mark on the city of New York, as well as the rest of the world, will never go away.

My home life was rough, and you extended to me an understanding and kindness that made my life all that less painful. You were my solace. But the education. The education! I am a writer, a fortunate one at that, and that's because of you. You taught me the love of the English word, and obviously, it has lasted all these years. I travel all over the world and people say to me, 'How do you know that??' I just tell them 'I had a good education.' Some of my fellow students at Cathedral and I are still in touch and say what a great education we had. You gave it to us.

But you, the Sisters of Charity, also took the word 'charity' literally and passed it on to us. That sense of giving, loving our fellow man—it was you who gave us that, and it has never left us.

I just came back this year from two 'tours of duty,' so to speak, in Ukraine, distributing food and warm clothing to refugees. What got me there? First, we had Ukrainian girls at Cathedral and the thought of them affected me when the war broke out, but it was our Senior spiritual retreat at CHS that "pushed me over the edge" and still affects me to this day.

At that retreat, a priest recounted a story about a Sister of Charity in a hospital washing an exceedingly ugly, God forgive me, even disgusting wound. The priest told her he wouldn't do that for a million dollars. Neither would she, said the good Sister, but for the love of God, yes. That story sent me to Ukraine, 54 years after I heard it.

"Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me." -Matthew 25:40

You instilled this in me, and in all of us. You have fulfilled your mission, and we will never be able to thank you enough. Be proud. Elizabeth Seton is smiling on all of you. And she can't wait to meet you.

With profound gratitude and respect,

*Mary Elizabeth Lucich*



# Guatemala

By Sr. Virginia Searing, *Barbara Ford Peacebuilding Center*

Associate Lisa Shay is the Associate Dean for Educational Innovation at Albert Nerken School of Engineering, at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. Since 2020, she has brought Cooper engineering students to the Barbara Ford Peacebuilding Center for summer research projects. Last summer, three students spent seven weeks living and working at the Center.

Electrical engineering major Azra Rangwala designed a photovoltaic system with battery storage to enhance one of the Center's entrepreneurship projects, which improves women's lives by teaching them to sew and providing them with sewing machines. Unfortunately, the cost of electricity in Guatemala is so high that the women spend a significant portion of their earnings just to power their sewing machines. Azra's system uses solar energy to power a sewing machine for six hours on a sunny day and store enough energy to provide power for an additional 3-6 hours on a cloudy or rainy day.

**"Instead of focusing on what to do next, buy next, and always being so ready to move on, I've learned to relax. Guatemala was a good break wherein I was not rushing around NYC, trying to get the best grades possible and at the same time learn as much as I could. I was able to enjoy the nature around me at BFC and outside. Another of my favorite things about Guatemala was the beautiful green. Everywhere I went I saw green trees, green grass, green hills—it all looked so healthy. I liked to sit in silence outside to breathe in the fresh, unpolluted air and listen to my surroundings. The Guatemalan people were all in touch with nature, which I aimed to mirror during my time there."**

**– Azra Rangwala**

*Azra Rangwala works on her photovoltaic system*



Mechanical engineering major Seokwoo (Ryan) Chung, developed chicken coop improvements to enhance another of the Center's entrepreneurship projects which teaches women to raise chickens for food and income. The women buy very young chicks which must be kept warm, but the cost of the electricity for the heat lamp significantly reduced their profits. Ryan designed a hot-water heating system that works with the wood stoves already in the homes. Ryan also proposed insulating coops using local materials and re-configuring them to better support the baby chicks.

**"The Summer Study Program allowed me to rethink my perspective on globalization, human relation and society, and the uniqueness and beauty of foreign traditions and cultures. During this time, I was able to make connections between my culture and Guatemala's and vice versa. It not only taught me who I was and who they were, but also about what the essential characteristic of human society was."**

**Guatemala was a new culture that I had never experienced and that brought its relative hardships, but it taught me that humans, no matter where we are from, are human and that we can gather and move forward no matter where we are from or where we are at."**

**– Ryan Chung**



*Azra and Ryan with baby chicks*

Civil engineering major Jacob Krebs developed recommendations for energy and water savings at the Center itself. He proposed changes in the on-site irrigation systems to reduce water loss and designed systems to capture rooftop rainwater that could aid in irrigation.

**"As an American being welcomed into Guatemala, the most admirable thing about my host country was their culture's connection with natural and spiritual elements. Guatemala is a time capsule of decades and even centuries-old practices to an American; it reflects a society more connected with nature, spirituality, and its people than what I have experienced in the U.S."**

**– Jacob Krebs**

*Ryan Chung, Azra Rangwala and Jacob Krebs at the Barbara Ford Peacebuilding Center*



## One Community Dialog:

What inspiration do we encounter in the Virgin of Guadalupe to transform the world?

By Lisa Shay, *SCNY Associate*

On February 7th, 28 Sisters and Associates gathered via Zoom to explore how the Virgin of Guadalupe continues to inspire us. This was the third of a three-part series on this theme and our specific question for this month was "What are we doing globally in the spirit of *Laudato Si* to help our planet and the people on it?"

We began with a gathering hymn, "Tu estás cerca," followed by Associates Bill Hurley and Eva Carrillo leading us in a prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe, praying verses alternately in English and Spanish. Then the group divided into three, with sequential translation by bi-lingual Sisters Sheila Brosnan and Virginia Searing in two breakout rooms, with the main room receiving simultaneous translation from our professional interpreter María Jose Salazar.

The lively discussions reflected our diverse experiences in Guatemala and the US and our varied efforts to combat climate change, but also revealed how much we have in common. *Laudato*

*Si* calls us to unite around our common causes. We are all called to keep hope alive in these times, despite the many disasters and tragedies we face. As one way of responding, the group pledged to gather this summer in advance of elections in Guatemala to pray for peaceful, free, and fair elections and to do so again in advance of the US elections in November.

*Elizabeth Seton and Our Lady of Guadalupe, Church of Santa Maria, Nebaj, Guatemala.*



Photo by Nelson Estrada, Barbara Ford Peacebuilding Center



## LEFSA: Life Experience and Faith Sharing Associates



The Life Experience and Faith Sharing Associates reach out to the men and women on the margins of society to restore their hope and help them transition into stability. We help individuals and our community begin the process of healing. We have seen God “make a way out of no way” in the lives of thousands. With help from our supporters, we are witnessing miracles, changing lives, reducing poverty, and extending the reign of God.  
(Photo credit: LEFSA)



James Addison stops by Rosary Hall to collect a donation of socks organized by our Associates.



LEFSA Mother's Day and May Leadership Study Day.  
(Photo credit: LEFSA)

## Elizabeth Seton Women's Center



Empowering our future for Engineering Day at St. Raymond Academy, organized by the Elizabeth Seton Women's Center. (Photo credit: Elizabeth Seton Women's Center)



Elizabeth Seton Women's Center facilitated four students from Saint Raymond Academy for Girls the opportunity to participate in the Aisling Irish Community Center's Leadership Conference. We hear a trip to Ireland may be in their future!  
(Photo credit: Elizabeth Seton Women's Center).



Apprentices preparing to plant for the new season.  
(Photo credit: Sisters Hill Farm)



Farmer Dave and the 2023 Sisters Hill Farm Team.  
(Photo credit: Sisters Hill Farm)

## Sisters Hill Farm



Sr. Mary Ann Garisto & Farmer Dave gather in front of Boyle Hall at CMSV for the final end-of-season distribution.

## The Elizabeth Seton Children's Center

By Anne Hennelly, Convent Administrator

The Sisters of Charity of New York were proud to present a check of \$3,000.00 to the Elizabeth Seton Children's Center. This contribution was made possible through the proceeds of the MSV Convent Store/Gift Shop, managed by Sr. Mary Carmel Craig. These funds, collected over a year, highlight the dedication of Mount St. Vincent Convent, a nurturing haven for retired Sisters of Charity.

The presentation was a collaborative effort, with Sr. Maria Iglesias, a devoted volunteer at the Center, inviting MSV Convent Administrator, Anne Hennelly, to join in this significant occasion. The Elizabeth Seton Children's Center holds a special place in the heart of the Sisters of Charity of NY, as children have been a central focus since our founding.

Moved by their unwavering commitment, the Sisters expressed their ongoing support and prayers for the Elizabeth Seton Children's Center, extending their caring embrace to encompass the children, families, and dedicated staff. Even in retirement, the Sisters' mission-driven spirits continue to shine brightly, radiating their compassion and love.



Sr. Miriam Kevin Phillips and Sr. Mary Kay Finneran join the Elizabeth Seton Children's Center during Nurses Week, to present Vanessa Sacco, RN and Tayrica Shaw, CNA, with the 2023 Nurses Mission Awards.



## SCNY Housing Development Corp.



*The SCNY Housing Development Corp. Team: Shirley Salomon, Jules St. Martin, Matthew Janeczko, Jason Ford, Vanessa Riley, Elizabeth Yudenfriend and Matthew Gardiner.*



**AWARD WINNER:** Vincent's Village, the Sisters of Charity Housing Development Corporation's newest affordable and supportive housing development in Rockland County, NY, was awarded the LEED Gold Award for Outstanding Affordable Projects. The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) Homes Awards are presented to developers, and builders who use LEED to improve the quality of life for residents, reduce a home's impact on the environment, and create healthier and more resilient communities. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the world's most widely used green building system with more than 100,000 buildings participating today. To learn more about the Sisters of Charity Housing Development Corporation, visit [scny.org](http://scny.org).



*Sr. Donna Dodge welcomes residents, staff, Sisters and special guests to the Vincent's Village one year anniversary lunch celebration.*

## St. Joseph's Medical Center, The New York Foundling



*SCNY Trustees tour St. Joseph's Medical Center.*



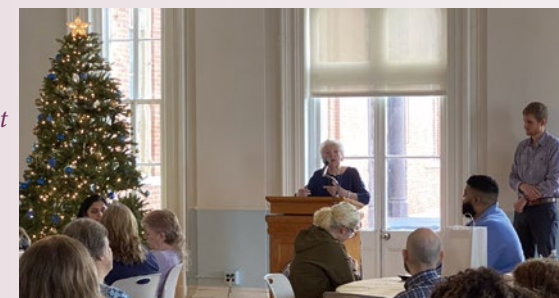
*Melanie Hartzog, CEO & President of The New York Foundling, shares her personal connection to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and the work of the Foundling during her presentation at the 2023 General Assembly.*

## College of Mount Saint Vincent



*Sisters and students gather for their annual Thanksgiving Dinner together.*

*Sr. Mary Mc Cormick shares stories about Elizabeth Seton at CMSV during a breakfast gathering to celebrate St. Elizabeth's Feast Day.*



*Sr. Donna Dodge and Sr. Margaret Egan join CMSV president Dr. Susan Burns for a Founders Day Instagram Live interview to learn more about the rich history of SCNY and the college.*



*Sr. Eileen McGrory and Sr. Suzanne Ellen Wallin join the College of Mount Saint Vincent Community Choir for a special Founders Day Concert.*



*Sisters and Associates join the College of Mount Saint Vincent, on their 175th Anniversary, at the 2023 St. Patrick's Day Parade.*



*Associates Maureen Reiser, Bobbie Williams, Anne Gray and Chris Gray enjoy a St. Patrick's Day brunch before the parade begins.*



*The College of Mount St. Vincent partnered with Riverdale Main Street Alliance and the Mural Mosaic Global Roots Project to bring this beautiful community mural to Riverdale.*



# Vincent's Table

By Sharon Dosin, *Chief Operations Officer, Sisters of Charity of New York*

Vincent's Table was founded in July of 2021 by the Sisters of Charity of New York and the College of Mount Saint Vincent, in response to the growing needs of those who are food insecure in our surrounding communities and here on our campus.

Vincent's Table has created partnerships with Feeding Westchester and the Franciscan Friars Breadline, who together distribute nutritious food to people struggling with food insecurity.

Vincent's Table sponsors three distributions monthly: two in Yonkers, NY and one in Bronx, NY. Since its first food distribution in Yonkers in February 2022, Vincent's Table has distributed over 110,000 pounds of food to families in need. In May 2022, Vincent's Table sponsored its first distribution in the Bronx, and over the past year has distributed over 20,000 pounds of food supporting over 500 families monthly.

received almost \$50,000 in grant funding. This has assisted us in providing services above and beyond food.

*Vincent's Table food distribution at the Our Lady of Angels Church in the Bronx, NY.*



Most of us don't know what it's like to choose between buying groceries or paying our rent, but many of our neighbors struggle each day with this decision. According to a study at Johns Hopkins University, students exposed to the harsh realities of food insecurity were less likely to pursue and complete higher education. Vincent's Table seeks to combat this increasingly common issue plaguing our modern educational system by offering any student at the College of Mount Saint Vincent a nourishing breakfast. The program has been very successful since it began one year ago.



*Members from the FDNY drop off toys to Jordan Douglas to distribute with the Vincent's Table food distribution during the Christmas season.*

I have had the honor of working with this ministry since its inception, and am grace-filled by its generosity and the gratitude of the people it serves. We've hosted Halloween parties for the children that come to the distributions and have given out baskets filled with treats and provided complete Thanksgiving meals to families. Through



*Sharon Dosin restocks the community refrigerator on the campus of the College of Mount Saint Vincent.*

In addition to the monthly food distributions, Vincent's Table supports students and staff members on campus by maintaining a pantry and refrigerator where anyone is welcome to take what they need and donate what they can. Our hope is that the campus community will benefit from the generosity of those who are able to support this ministry.

Along with relying on our partnerships and donations, over the past year Vincent's Table has



*Vincent's Table food distribution at the Convent of Mary the Queen in Yonkers, NY.*

the generosity of a donor, we have distributed over 250 children's toys at Christmas, and hosted a free legal clinic to support women who are victims of domestic violence or elder abuse.

By attending the distributions month after month, I have gotten to know some guests quite well. Learning about them and hearing about their struggles and what they have overcome is inspirational. In fact, the Sisters of Charity have provided full time employment to some of those guests. Now, although in a better position financially, the guests still come to the distributions, but not to receive donations. They volunteer and give back to their community.

Just recently at our distribution I spent time with a mother of a 4-month-old child, who was hopeful that we had bananas to offer her that week. She wanted to begin to introduce soft food to her child. She had so many questions about the baby and her habits. As a mother of three (almost) grown boys, I was happy to pass along some helpful tips that I wish I knew as a young mother. When I saw her again, she was so excited to share the news of how her child was doing and how much she loved bananas!

Although working with this ministry is part of my role with the Sisters of Charity, I've received so much more than I ever expected. Embracing the Mission is just the start of it—living the Mission is where it's at!

*The CMSV van is stuffed with hundreds of turkey dinners for a special Thanksgiving meal distribution.*



*Sisters from Mount St. Vincent Convent filled trick-or-treat bags and buckets with Halloween goodies to be distributed to the many families who rely on Vincent's Table.*



# The Office of Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation



SCNY Associate Bill Hurley was honored at our Spring Benefit 2023 for his decades long commitment to the office and ministry of PJIC.

Sr. Carol De Angelo reads the latest chapter of The 1619 Project ahead of the monthly online book discussion organized by the anti-racism committee of PJIC.



Sr. Margaret O'Brien graciously used her connections to bring "Pope Francis" to our 2023 General Assembly for the session that focused on our Congregation's continued commitment to Laudato Si'.



The office of PJIC and the staff at LeGras joined Nuns Against Gun Violence to raise awareness and advocate for stricter gun control measures. Many of our staff shared their own personal experience with gun violence.



Sr. Carol De Angelo leads a lively discussion about mindful eating and our personal foodprint with the Sisters at Kittay. **Top:** Sr. Patricia Morgan, Sr. Anna Marian Lascell, Sr. Cecilia Reeves, Sr. Peggy Smith, Sr. Gloria Degnan, Sr. Mary Kay Finneran, Sr. Mary Liegey, Sr. Noreen Sugrue, & Sr. Mary Tommasino | **Bottom L:** Sr. Eileen Kelly, Sr. Theresa Dermody, Sr. Winifred (Wink) Goddard, Sr. Lily Butler, & Sr. Kathryn McDermott | **Bottom R:** Sr. Mary Liegey, Sr. Noreen Sugrue & Sr. Carol De Angelo.



Giving Tuesday was a huge success thanks to the generous support of our donors, and the hard work of Super Sister Margaret Egan and all the Super Sisters of Charity of New York. We raised over \$16,000 to support our Vincent's Table ministry.



Unstoppable Charity: Congratulations to Anne Marie Gardiner, Executive Director of Mission Advancement, and to her development team, for winning CWR's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Electronic Media at the Communicators for Women Religious Conference.



Congratulations to Sr. Regina Bechtle, who received her honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from St. John's University. SJU President, Rev. Brian Shanley, O.P., presented Sr. Regina with her degree.



# Relics: A Special Report

By Sr. Eileen McGrory and Sr. Dominica Rocchio, *Office of Special Projects*

Beginning in 2015, the collections of relics possessed by the Congregation came to the attention of the Office of Special Projects. These collections originated from several sources: donations made by individuals, the closure of convents, and relics found in Sisters' belongings after their deaths. A collection was gathered from the Convent of Mary the Queen in Yonkers when it closed in 2015. When the sacristy of the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at Mount Saint Vincent was renovated, relics were found in the safe. They had been venerated by the professed Sisters, novices, and postulants who lived at the Mount for well over a hundred years. In addition, our archivist, Mindy Gordon, made us aware that relics had been consigned to the Archives as noted in its records.

In the Catholic Church, relics are of persons officially declared saint or blessed or of a sacred object associated with Jesus Christ, such as a piece of the Holy Cross or a fragment of the Crown of Thorns. Relics of this kind are classified as first-class. A relic from the clothing (ex indumentis) of a saint or blessed is classified as second-class. A third-class relic is an object that is touched to a first-class relic.

In the tradition of the Church, saints are often honored on their feast day by displaying their relics for veneration. This provides an opportunity for a public proclamation of belief in the power of salvation through Christ, lived out in a member of the faithful now called saint or blessed. Such veneration is an avenue for the faithful to express and deepen their faith. Keeping relics stored when there is no regular community to venerate them does not fulfill this intent; therefore, finding appropriate locations for veneration of our relics became our goal.

At the outset, we acknowledge the invaluable assistance given by Sister Janet Baxendale (+March 31, 2020) to this project. Her knowledge of the documentation required to support the validity of a relic and her careful reporting on the destination of each relic came from her well-honed liturgical sense. Her connections with people developed over the years facilitated the project to its end. We also

note that the Code of Canon Law strictly forbids the sale of relics: "It is absolutely forbidden to sell sacred relics." They may be offered to another who may make a donation for them.

As the project began, the first task was to separate the relics into those of each saint or sacred object. This made us realize the extent of the relics in our possession. We never counted them, but the number and variety made the task daunting, to say the least. As would be expected, relics of Elizabeth Ann Seton and Vincent de Paul outnumbered all the rest. Relics of other saints ranged from those we knew well, such as Saint Patrick and the Little Flower, to lesser-known saints.



Relics given to the Sisters of Charity of New York over the centuries are finding new homes.



First-class relic of St. Vincent de Paul

All our relics of persons were first-class, and the relic object was a piece of the body or bone. We also had a few relics containing fragments of the Holy Cross. Usually, a relic case or theca holds the remains of one saint or blessed; we had a few cases that held relics of three to four related saints. Our most notable one was of the twelve apostles which produced a bit of interest among us. Because cases for holding relics are rather small, they are very often enclosed within a larger and, at times, ornate container called a reliquary, particularly for veneration purposes.

The second task was to match a Certificate of Authenticity with its assigned relic. The Certificate supports the truthfulness of the relic in the eyes of the Church and carries a written testimony to its validity by a person who has devoted years to the cause of the saint. A relic's validity is further supported by an intact red wax seal stamped on the backing for the relic within its case. The seal binds two crossed red threads which tie the relic

into the case; unbroken threads witness that no change has been made to the relic since its formation. In our collections, certificates were found for most relics, while the remainder had intact crossed red threads which tie the relic into the case; unbroken threads witness that no change has been made to the relic since its formation.



First-class relic of St. Elizabeth Seton.

First-class relic of St. Louise de Marillac.



First-class relic of all twelve Apostles.



Receipt for Apostles relic.



# Mass of Remembrance, October 8, 2022

<b>HONORING:</b> <i>Deceased 10/1/21 – 9/30/22</i>	<b>FORMER MEMBERS/ Entrance Year:</b>
Sister Alberta T. Carey	Elizabeth (Betty) Burbage (Sister Stephen Marietta) 1955
Sister Mary Adele Henze	
Sister Marie Paula Holdman	Jane Catherine Hampshire (Sister John Maris) 1964
Sister Rose Frederick Jones	Margaret Jones 1966
Sister Muriel T. Long	
Sister Mary Kieran Mulligan	Mary Alice Ross (Sister Mary Benjamin) 1950
Sister Helen McTaggart	Diane Valek* (Sister Rose Paul) 1960
Sister Anne O’Connell	*Also an SCNY Associate since 2012
Sister Ellen Quirke	
Sister Kathleen Tracey	
Sister Miriam Jude Trank	
Sister Catherine Walsh	



*Sisters and members from Casa de Esperanza attend cremation ceremony for Sr. Jean Bocian and Sr. Patricia Walsh at the Mount Saint Vincent Cemetery.*

# The Historic Sign at Mount Saint Vincent Cemetery

By Mindy Gordon, *Director, Archives, Sisters of Charity of New York*

The Sisters of Charity of New York’s cemetery at Mount Saint Vincent has been distinguished by the installation of a 2022 New York State Historic Marker, awarded through a grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. The grant program celebrates community history, to “educate the public and foster historic tourism” by acknowledging cultural sites and institutions in New York State which were founded at least 100 years prior to the grant application year. Since 2006, the Foundation has funded over 1,000 markers in the state. These iconic signs are familiar to many, by the rectangular shape and state colors in blue with yellow lettering.

The Cemetery was established in 1860 when the Community relocated from McGowan’s Pass, Manhattan, due to the impending development of Central Park at the site where the Motherhouse and Chapel had been built in 1847. Several of the deceased who had been buried at McGowan’s Pass were later transferred to be reburied at Mount Saint Vincent. Many of the earliest Sisters, who were teachers at the Academy of Mount Saint Vincent

and local Bronx parochial schools, child caretakers at orphanages, and nurses at hospitals during the 19th Century, were buried at the Mount. Five of the fourteen sisters who volunteered as Civil War nurses at St. Joseph’s Military Hospital, located in the vacated McGowan’s Pass Motherhouse and Chapel, are memorialized with government military gravestones. The Cemetery is one of 40 different locations, most in the metropolitan New York area, where Community members have been buried.



*Newly installed historic sign marks the entrance to the Mount Saint Vincent Convent Cemetery.*



*Sisters Margaret Egan, Sheila Brosnan, Claire E. Regan, Eileen McGrory, Margaret M. O’Brien, Dorothy Metz, and Donna Dodge bestow their blessings upon the newly adorned memorial, commemorating the resting place of many revered souls at the hallowed cemetery.*

The phrasing crafted for the sign represents the ministries of these members, whose endeavors defined the traditional ministries of the Congregation. The grant application requires detailed primary resource information to generate a sign that is both representative and historically accurate. The Pomeroy Foundation’s guidelines allow six lines of text, with an allowance for a certain number of spaces for each line. The Foundation’s grant administrators work diligently with each applicant to ensure compliance.

The Mount Saint Vincent sign has been placed at the base of the sidewalk leading to the cemetery on the hill, so that it may be visible to the campus community. A formal installation ceremony will take place at a later date. The Community is elated to be able to share this legacy through the gift of this grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation.



# With Love and Appreciation We Remember:

July 9, 2022 – June 10, 2023



*Sr. Ellen Quirke*

Sister Ellen entered the Sisters of Charity of New York on September 8, 1945. She obtained a BS in Education from Fordham University, an MA in Pastoral Counseling from Iona College, and an MSW in Social Work from Fordham University. With 49 years of active ministry, Sister Ellen began her journey in elementary education, teaching and serving as Principal at various schools in the Bronx and Manhattan. In 1964, she became the Director of the Juniorate at Mount Saint Vincent. From 1969 onwards, Sister Ellen dedicated 27 years to social work, working at different institutions in Yonkers and Manhattan. For 18 years, she ministered in lower New York neighborhoods through Saint Vincent Hospital and Medical Center, providing community medicine and visiting home care. Sister Ellen found her service to be a mutual healing experience. She retired in 1996, resided at Mount Saint Vincent Convent and Kittay Senior Apartments, and passed away on July 9, 2022, at the age of 95, in her 77th year as a Sister of Charity of New York.



*Sr. Mary Adele Henze*

Sister Mary Adele joined the Sisters of Charity of New York on September 8, 1951. Throughout her 51 years of active ministry, she dedicated herself to education. She taught at various elementary schools, including Saint Paul in Brooklyn, Saint Ignatius Loyola in Manhattan, Saint John the Evangelist in White Plains, and served as Principal at Holy Trinity in Mamaroneck. Sister Mary Adele also worked as a guidance counselor for elementary grades at schools in the Bronx and for Saint Gabriel High School in New Rochelle. Later, she directed the Religious Education Program at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Scarsdale for 16 years. Sister Mary Adele recognized needs and provided assistance throughout her life, from supporting teachers and students as a guidance counselor to volunteering at the New Rochelle Outreach Center and offering help to fellow Sisters in retirement. Sister Mary Adele died on July 17, 2022, at the age of 91, in her 72nd year of commitment as a Sister of Charity of New York.



*Sr. Kathleen Tracy*

Sister Kathleen joined the Sisters of Charity of New York in 1950. She obtained an MS and PhD in biology from Fordham University in 1955 and went on to teach biology at various institutions, including St. John the Evangelist High School, Fordham University, and the College of Mount Saint Vincent. She pursued post-doctoral studies in radiation biology at the University of Chicago and the University of Oak Ridge. Throughout her sixty years of ministry, Sister Kathleen dedicated herself to the College of Mount Saint Vincent, serving as Associate Professor, Professor, and Chair of the Biology Department. She established the Institute for Aquatic Research, introduced the first bioethics course on the undergraduate level, and proposed new courses that enriched the science curriculum. After her tenure in the Biology Department, Sister Kathleen held administrative roles and served as Associate Vice-President for Advancement, including twenty years as the director of the Mount's cooperative program with Manhattan College. Even after retirement, Sister Kathleen continued to contribute voluntary service to the institution with which her name is forever associated. Sr. Kathleen Tracy died on July 21, 2022, at the age of 96, in her 72nd year of commitment as a Sister of Charity of New York.



*Sr. Marie Paula Holdman*

Sister Paula dedicated sixty-five years to education, teaching at the Academy of Mount Saint Vincent in the Bronx, Cathedral High School in Manhattan, and the College of Mount Saint Vincent for forty-eight years. At the college, she held various positions, including Associate Professor of English and German, Chair of the German Department, moderator of college publications, and College Historian. Sister Paula also served as the Director of Communications and Editor for the Congregation's publications, including Le Gras Bulletin and VISION magazine. She actively participated in a History Writing Project, presenting papers on the role of women religious and the Sisters of Charity in higher education. Sister Paula considered the College of Mount Saint Vincent a spiritual and intellectual center in a changing educational landscape. She retired in 2007 and continued to volunteer at the college until her passing on September 18, 2022, at the age of 101, in her 81st year as a Sister of Charity of New York.

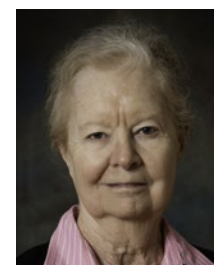
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*Sr. Patricia Walsh*

Sister Patricia's fifty-five years of active ministry encompassed diverse fields of service. She spent twenty years as an elementary school teacher at various locations, including Saint Raymond in the Bronx, Saint John the Evangelist in White Plains, and Incarnation and Saint Bernard in Manhattan. Sister Patricia also served as the Principal of Saint Gabriel Elementary in the Bronx for eight years. Her administrative skills were utilized in caring for young children and their families at Queens Daughters Day Care Center in Yonkers, as well as for senior Sisters of the Congregation at Convent of Mary the Queen in Yonkers and Mount Saint Vincent Convent in the Bronx. Additionally, she worked as a Patient Representative at Saint Joseph's Medical Center in Yonkers and later served as a Receptionist at the Sisters of Charity Center before her retirement in 2014. Sister Patricia resided at Mount Saint Vincent Convent and then moved to Kittay Senior Apartments before passing away on February 12, 2023, at the age of 84, in her 67th year as a Sister of Charity of New York.



*Sr. Patricia Noone*

Sister Patricia dedicated forty-nine of her fifty-five years of active ministry to teaching English at the College of Mount Saint Vincent in the Bronx. She joined the college's English Department in 1964 and held various roles, from Instructor to Chair to Professor of English. Sister Patricia played a significant role in the growth of the department, introducing courses like women's studies. In 1977, she authored the acclaimed book *Mary for Today*. After leaving the college in 2013, she was asked by the Congregation to chair a committee to write the history of the Sisters of Charity of New York from 1996 to 2020, completing the three-volume history project started by Sister Marie de Lourdes Walsh and Sister Mary Elizabeth Earley. Sister Patricia also contributed to streamlining communications for the Congregation and external audiences through publications like FOCUS and VISION magazine. Sr. Patricia died on February 26, 2023, at the age of 83, in her 62nd year of commitment as a Sister of Charity of New York.



*Sr. Miriam Anne Brennan*

Sister Miriam Anne began her mission in elementary education for five years before dedicating sixty-four years to the nursing ministry. She served at various hospitals, starting at Saint Vincent's Hospital in New York, where she worked as a nurse, Department Chair in Obstetrics, and Assistant Director of Nursing for over a decade. She then became the Director of

Nursing and the first Director of the School of Nursing at Saint Vincent's Hospital in Staten Island. Sister Miriam Anne also held roles as the Health Coordinator for the Sisters of Charity and worked in nursing administration at Saint Joseph's Hospital in Yonkers. For thirty years, she served the health needs of the Congregation in different capacities. In 2009, she retired from full-time ministry and passed away on March 17, 2023, at the age of 102, in her 85th year as a Sister of Charity.



*Sr. Constance Kelly*

Sister Constance devoted fifty-two years to education and pastoral ministry. She taught for thirteen years at schools in Brooklyn and the Bronx, including Saint Charles Borromeo and Saint Margaret of Cortona. Later, she taught Latin at Saint Raymond Academy for Girls. In 1971, she began thirty-seven years of pastoral work in Santiago, Chile, followed by fourteen years in Guatemala. Upon returning to New York, she continued her ministry with the Hispanic community at Saint Peter of Alcantara Church in Port Washington. Sister Constance's dedication was recognized when she was honored as a Woman of Distinction in Port Washington. After retiring in 2010, she resided at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Manhattan until her passing on June 10, 2023, at the age of 85, after serving as a Sister of Charity of New York for 68 years.



*Sr. Jean Bocian*

Sister Jean's active ministry spanned fifty-eight years, with twenty-seven years spent in elementary classrooms and twenty-five years dedicated to serving immigrant families. She taught at various schools in the Bronx, Manhattan, Yonkers, and Pelham Manor, while also engaging in innovative programs. In 1987, she received a Christa McAuliffe Fellowship from the US Department of Education to establish an after-school program called S.K.I.P, focusing on improving reading and math skills for students in Yonkers. Sister Jean's commitment extended to co-directing the Sisters of Charity Multi-Service Center, Casa de Esperanza, which provided support to immigrant families in Yonkers, including citizenship preparation, English as a Second Language classes, and employment skills training. Sister Jean's dedication to marginalized communities led her to create practical solutions and build networks of support. She passed away on March 20, 2023, at Calvary Hospital in the Bronx, at the age of 75, in her 58th year of commitment as a Sister of Charity of New York.



## Spring Benefit 2023

Once again, the sun shone bright on the Sisters of Charity of New York's Annual Spring Benefit, held at Chelsea Piers on May 18th. Over 250 friends, benefactors, and Sisters enjoyed an evening filled with good food and drink, great conversation, and wonderful music. Our theme was "Together in Charity," so we celebrated the leaders of our ministries and recognized George Hoehmann and Bill Hurley, both of whom live the charism of charity. We raised over \$155,000 that evening, but the highlight of this event is having the Sisters on the dance floor and this year was no exception! We look forward to seeing you next year.

Save the Date  
**Spring Benefit**  
**2024**  
May 16, 2024



Sisters Jean Iannone, Mary Ann Garisto, Carol De Angelo and Marie Morris enjoy a fun time in the 360 Photo Booth



Sr. Kathy Byrnes tears up the dance floor at the 2023 Spring Benefit.



Spring Benefit honoree and Clarkstown Supervisor, George Hoehmann, is honored for his commitment to affordable housing in Rockland County.



Sisters Karen Helfenstein, SCNY, Maryanne Campeotto, SCNJ, Margaret Ellen Burke, SCNY, Ellen Farrell, SCNJ, Elizabeth Kremp, SCNJ, Cecilia McManus, SCNJ, Carol De Angelo, SCNY & Kathy Byrnes, SCNY



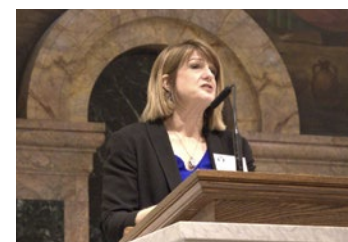
Sr. Donna Dodge joins SCNY Housing President & CEO, Matthew Janeczko on stage at the 2023 Spring Benefit, where Matthew brought his many talents serving as Master of Ceremonies.



Whether they're outside or inside, guests can't help but smile when they attend our SCNY Spring Benefit at the Lighthouse, located at Chelsea Piers.

## Welcome 2022 Sisters of Charity of New York Associates, September 17, 2022

### Initial Commitments:



Dr. Susan Burns



Jasmine Cecil

### Recommitments:



Courtney Cahill

### Lifetime Commitments:



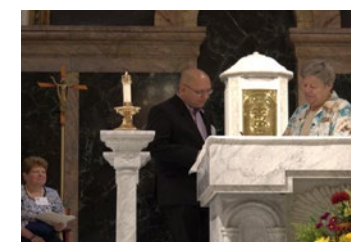
Christina Clohessy



Stephanie Gabaud



Alissa Minio



Bobby Soto



Patricia Yeager



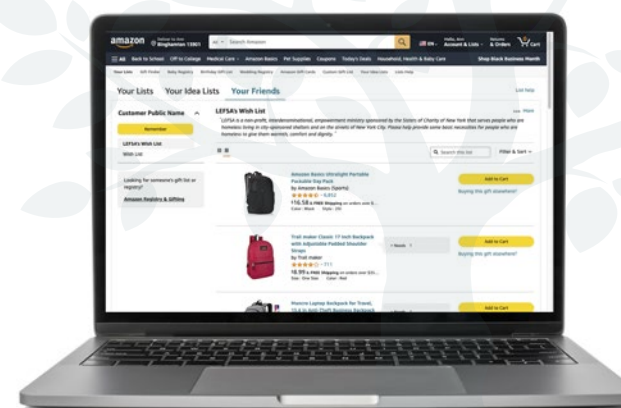
Jennifer Puac

**"Sharing the charism, together in charity!"**  
—Maureen Reiser, *Director of Associates*

## Make a Wish Come True...

A quick and easy way to make life better for unhoused people in NYC is through a gift from LEFSA's Amazon Wish List! You can select from a variety of clothing items, toiletries, bottled water and more and have it shipped directly to LEFSA... often with free shipping if you have Prime.

[tinyurl.com/yc7mkwxw](https://tinyurl.com/yc7mkwxw)  
or scan:





## Jubilees, September 8, 2022

### 40 Years

Sr. Claire E. Regan

### 55 Years

Sr. Karen Helfenstein

### 60 Years

Sr. Regina Bechtle

Sr. Arleen Ketchum

Sr. Ellen Rose O'Connell

Sr. Dominica Rocchio

### 65 Years

Sr. Lorraine Cooper

Sr. Margaret A. Donegan

Sr. Sheila Mary Finucane

Sr. Jane Iannucelli

Sr. Evelyne Teresa Larkin

Sr. Mary E. Mc Cormick

Sr. Josephine M. Rog

Sr. Patricia A. Walsh

Sr. Genevieve Wetmore

### 70 Years

Sr. Philip Dolores (Rose Ann) Cacciatore

Sr. Theresa Courtney

Sr. Teresa Dermody

Sr. Geraldine Hanley

Sr. Charlotte Raftery

Sr. Margaret M. (Peggy) Smith

Sr. Monica Wood

### 75 Years

Sr. Therese Marie Donnelly

Sr. Theresa Gravino

Sr. Marie T. Murphy

### 80 Years

Sr. Marie Paula Holdman



Jubilee Mass at Mount Saint Vincent Convent.

Sr. Marie T. Murphy celebrates 75 years as a Sister of Charity of New York.



Jubilee Celebration for SCNY staff.



## Sister Celebrations



Halloween: **Top:** Sr. Madeleine Maria Mahoney, Sr. Linda Giuli, Sr. Barbara Srozenski, Anne Hennelly, Convent Administrator, Sr. Gloria De Arteaga | **Middle:** Karen Outlaw, SCNY Controllor | Pauline Pumpkin | Sr. Dorothy Metz | **Bottom:** Frank Tussy, SCNY Director, Information Systems | Sr. Hellen F. Connors | Sr. A. Jean Iannone, Sharon Dosin, SCNY COO, Anne Gray, SCNY Executive Assistant to the President and Assistants, & Kitreace Harris, SCNY Receptionist



Christmas: **Top:** Anne Gray, Sr. Claire E. Regan | Sr. Mary Ann Garisto, Jose Perez | Sr. Kathleen Gilbride, Sr. Margaret C. Kelly | **Middle:** Chef Atif Attia | Sr. Margaret O'Brien, Anne Gray | Sr. Maria Iglesias, Sr. Gloria De Arteaga, Sr. Lorraine Cooper, Convent Staff, Sr. Suzanne Ellen Wallin | **Bottom:** Sr. Meg Sweeney, OP, SCNY CFO, Sr. Donna Dodge, Sr. Karen Helfenstein, Sr. Eileen Patricia Walsh | Sr. Lorraine Cooper, Sr. Nancy McNamara, Santiago Moran | Sr. Suzanne Ellen Wallin & Sr. Ann Marie Lagan



St. Patrick's Day: **Top:** Sr. Vivienne Joyce, Sr. Nancy McNamara, Sr. Mary Catherine Cleary | Sr. T. Marie Tolle, Sr. Rita King, Sr. Margaret A. Donegan, Sr. Francis Marita Sabara | Sr. Dominica Rocchio, Sr. Barbara Srozenski, Sr. Elizabeth A. Vermaelen | **Middle:** Sr. Linda Giuli, Sr. Eileen Gallagher, Sr. Miriam Kevin Phillips, Sr. Mary Carmel Craig | Sr. Kathleen McAvoy, Sr. Marie T. Murphy, Sr. Eileen Patricia Walsh, Sr. Ellen Rose O'Connell, Sr. Mary Eucharica Carrigan, Sr. Kathleen Gilbride, Sr. Mary Ann Garisto, Sr. Sheila Mary Finucane, Sr. Jane Iannucelli, Sr. Anne Denise Brennan, Sr. Josephine M. Rog, Sr. Ceil Harriendorf, Sr. Eileen Shaw, SCNJ, Sr. Rose Ann Bianco, Sr. Mary Ellen O'Boyle | **Bottom:** Ireland flag | Sr. Anita Lavelle, Sr. Jeanne Delaney, Sr. Aileen Kelly, Sr. Margaret Donegan, Sr. Helen McGovern | Sr. Lorraine Cooper, Sr. Kathleen Aucoin, Sr. Helen F. Connors, and Sr. Joan Burbage



These masked Mardi Gras revelers look a lot like the Sisters who reside at St. Patrick Villa.



# 2023-2027 Transfer of Leadership

By Sister Regina Bechtle

*“When you’re planning to take a long hike on a road you’ve never walked before—you’d better take a backpack with you.”* That was the suggestion that Sister Donna Dodge offered at a meeting of our Congregation last September. On our journey into the future, she said, be sure to make room in those backpacks for hope and trust, faith and conviction, courage and daring.

Plus some risk pills, a little curiosity and a lot of humor. Some music, too, to lift our spirits, songs like “Be Not Afraid,” “Strength for the Journey,” “We Are Family.” We could well add the songs from today, “My Shepherd is the Lord,” and “You Are All We Have.”

You, Sisters, our new Leadership Team, will help us navigate the next stage of the road. It continues the path that Vincent and Louise shaped in 17th century France, the path that Elizabeth Seton and Elizabeth Boyle adapted and honed in America, the path that literally thousands of Sisters of Charity have followed for over 200 years.

We already know that the road leads to self-giving service, to dying in all kinds of ways. It leads to the Cross—no way around it. BUT there is more. *(There is always more!)* **That path also leads to Resurrection. That is our sure and certain hope.**

The future by definition is unknown. But **THIS WE DO KNOW:** Each of you is a seasoned leader. **You know** the territory. **You know** that our lives are in the hands of a God who gives us what we need, all the time. And when Providence upsets our plans, as it often does, **you know how to pivot**, how to be “inventive to infinity” (as St. Vincent urged).

**You know** (as Elizabeth Seton did) that in each new challenge, if we “only do our best and leave the rest to our dear God,” if we only take the risk and “hazard yet forward,” then the One who began the work of Charity among us will bring it to completion, to fulfillment, in God’s good time—**because the mission belongs not to us but to God.**

Here, now, while we have life and breath, there is still so much work – God’s work – to be about.

**We count on you** to keep urging us on, impelled by the Charity of Christ.



*Sr. Mary Ann Daly, Councilor, Sr. Mary E. Mc Cormick, Assistant to the President, Sr. Donna Dodge, President, Sr. Margaret M. O’Brien, Assistant to the President, Sr. Sheila Brosnan, Councilor and Sr. Margaret Egan, Councilor*

As Sister Donna ended her talk last year, “Remember that we are on this journey *together*.” **We count on you to build on the energy of this “togetherness,”** this solidarity, communion, interconnection, among us, beyond us, embracing our Earth and all its peoples, all created things. We share it with one another, with our partners in ministry, with those on the margins whom we serve, with Mother Earth and its billions of humans, plants and animal species.

**You are women of faith in the Resurrection.** Every rocky, blessed step on our journey leads to Christ who is risen and goes before us.

**We count on you** to keep pointing us toward that light, that hope, that truth, on which we and thousands before us have staked our lives.

Our prayer for you echoes that of St. Paul in today’s reading: *“May your love overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you determine what is best.”*

**THIS WE KNOW:** In the steps of the valiant women who have led the Sisters of Charity for two centuries and more, you **will** meet your grace in every moment. Our Provident God **will** be with **you**, with **us**, every step of the way. And the mission of Jesus **will** continue long after us, in ways we can’t begin to imagine.



*Sr. Claire E. Regan, Sr. Dominica Rocchio and Sr. Dorothy Metz present candles to the new Leadership Team.*



*Former SCNY Presidents, Sr. Carol A. Barnes, Sr. Jane Iannucelli & Sr. Elizabeth A. Vermaelen.*



*Thank you to our 2019-2023 Leadership team for their service: Sr. Claire E. Regan, Sr. Dominica Rocchio, Sr. Dorothy Metz, Sr. Donna Dodge, Sr. Margaret M. O’Brien, Sr. Sheila Brosnan, and Sr. Margaret Egan*



*Sr. Carol De Angelo carries the flame of charity during the opening procession of the 2023-2027 Transfer of Leadership Prayer Service.*







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## Sisters of Charity



*Sr. Donna Dodge, President, SCNY & Sr. Maureen Shaughnessy, General Superior, SCNJ, Forward Together in Charity. (Photo credit: Donna Sartor-Halatin, SCNJ)*

**It is a story of thousands of lives  
of love and service,**

**a story of passion for God's poor,  
a story of tough love and high standards,  
a story of caring and compassion.**

**It is a story of needs met, difficulties  
faced, challenges overcome,**

**societies changed – mostly, with little or  
no resources.**

**It is a story of the marvelous mission  
of Charity which never rests**

**satisfied with past glory, but propels  
us into the future,**

**with the energy of the Spirit of God,  
to do more, always more,**

**in faithful response to the overwhelming  
needs of our day.**

**With you, our associates and  
partners in ministry,**

**We stride into the future with confidence  
and enthusiasm,**

**for we know God is waiting  
to meet us there.**