



CROSSROADS

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF CHICAGO



ISSUE 36 - SUMMER 2021



FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF CHICAGO

Celebrating 126 Years of Compassionate Service to Those in Need

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**ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL, UNITED IN PRAYER AND COMMUNITY,
WE SHARE FRANCISCAN JOY AND SERVE GENEROUSLY.**

--- Mission Statement of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, December 8, 2010

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION LEADERSHIP TEAM

Sister M. Bernadette Bajuscik, General Minister
Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie, General Vicar
Sister M. Helene Galuszka, General Councilor/General Secretary

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Dudzik Innovation Grant Winners'

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On the Cover: This photo is of the statue of St. Francis in front of Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont, IL.

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www.chicagofranciscans.org, www.mothertheresadudzik.com
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JUBILEE 2021

Congratulations and God's blessings to our 2021 Jubilarians! This year, four Sisters celebrate Jubilees: Sister Anne Marie Knawa, Sister M. Colette Kwieczka, Sister Emilie Marie Lesniak, and Sister M. Francis Clare Radke. Many thanks to these Sisters for all their work and dedication over the years!

Sister Anne Marie Knawa - 70 years of religious life



Sister Anne Marie Knawa

Sister Anne Marie Knawa was born on June 22, 1929, in Chicago. She entered religious life on January 27, 1952, and professed her first vows on August 12, 1954. Sister started in the ministry of education in 1952, when she began her first teaching assignment, teaching fourth grade at SS. Philip and James School in Cleveland, Ohio. Sister then taught sixth grade at St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr in Chicago (1954-55), sixth grade at St. Leo the Great in Cleveland (1955-56), and then sixth grade at SS. Philip and James School in Cleveland (1956-57). Sister Anne Marie returned to the Chicago area and taught eighth grade at St. Louise de Marillac in La Grange Park, Illinois, from 1957 to 1964. She then taught English at Madonna High School in Chicago, from 1964 to 1988.

Sister Anne Marie has a gift for writing and was involved in many projects focusing on the history of the congregation. She served as the community historian and researched and wrote the history of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago entitled, *As God Shall Ordain*, which was published in 1988. Assisted by Sister M. Jude Kruszewski, Sister Anne Marie spent countless hours researching the congregation's history. This required traveling to all the cities and states that the Sisters had ministries in and conducting interviews with many Sisters from the congregation, workers, administrators, and other religious who were involved in these ministries. This was an enormous undertaking as she made innumerable trips to libraries, archives, museums, chancery offices, and convents for her research efforts. Sister Anne Marie studied all of the congregation's chronicles, newsletters, correspondence, proceedings of general chapter meetings, and journals to illustrate an accurate historic picture of all the work the congregation did over the years.

Sister Anne Marie was responsible for the planning and development of Heritage Hall, a museum inside Our Lady of Victory Convent that chronicles the history of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago and their ministries. Heritage Hall was first opened in 1992 and displayed many artifacts, photographs, and other historical material collected

over the years by the Sisters. In 2002, the Sisters built a new convent and Sister Anne Marie was tasked with not only supervising the transfer of many of the historical artifacts to the new convent, but also the expansion and updating of various sections in the museum. This new and improved Heritage Hall opened in 2003. Sister presented tours of Heritage Hall and gave lectures on the history of the congregation to visitors and newly-hired associates. She often wrote historical brochures and articles for the congregation, and contributed to multiple publications over the years.

Sister graduated cum laude from Loyola University in Chicago with a Bachelor of Science in Humanities. She also received a Master's Degree in English from Loyola and did postgraduate work at Fordham University, the University of Notre Dame, and Rosary College. She also completed a program of study in English at Brasenose College of the University of Oxford in England.

Congratulations and God's blessings to Sister Anne Marie Knawa on 70 years of religious life!

Sister M. Colette Kwieczka - 70 years of religious life



Sister M. Colette Kwieczka

Sister M. Colette Kwieczka was born on March 17, 1936, in Chicago. She entered religious life on September 8, 1950, and professed her vows on August 12, 1954. Sister went to Madonna High School in Chicago and was taught by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago who inspired her to join religious life.

Sister received her Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Loyola University and her Master of Arts degree in Elementary Education from Indiana University. Sister M. Colette's ministry and dedication in education continued by serving at the following parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago:

- St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr (1953 - 1955)
- Five Holy Martyrs (1955 - 1969)
- St. Pancratius (1969 - 1971 and 1987 - 2002)

Sister M. Colette then served in the Diocese of Gary, Indiana, and ministered at Blessed Sacrament Parish from 1971 to 1987. Later, Sr. M. Colette joined and resided with the Sisters at St. Anthony Convent in Crown Point,

Indiana, from 2002 to 2009. Since 2009, Sister M. Colette has served as the Local Minister at Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont, Illinois.

Congratulations and God's blessings to Sister M. Colette Kwieczka on 70 years of religious life!

Sister Emilie Marie Lesniak - 60 years of religious life



Sister Emilie Marie Lesniak

Sister Emilie Marie Lesniak was born on July 12, 1938, in Chicago, Illinois. She entered religious life on August 27, 1961, and professed her vows on August 12, 1964. Prior to entering religious life, Sister received her Master's Degree in Piano (1956) from the E.V. Eggert Academy of Music in Chicago. She also attended St. Xavier College (later named University) in Chicago, and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education (1960).

As a postulant, Sister Emilie Marie resided at the Madonna Convent and ministered as organist for daily Mass and taught Religion at Madonna High School (1961). During the two years (1962-1964) of her Novitiate, Sister ministered to her co-sisters, teaching music and occasionally playing the organ for Mass. As a professed sister, she continued to share her gift of music as organist at Our Lady of Victory Motherhouse (1965-1966). During this time she received a Bachelor of Music Degree from the College of St. Francis in Joliet, Illinois.

From 1967-1969, Sister taught Junior High students at St. Stanislaus Bishop & Martyr School in Chicago and was the organist at the convent chapel for daily Mass. Sister Emilie Marie was then assigned to Five Holy Martyrs School in Chicago (1969-1972) and taught various subjects in the junior high. In 1972, Sister received her Master of Music Education Degree from De Paul University in Chicago. From 1972 to 1980, Sister became the Formation Director of Postulants, Novices and Junior Professed Sisters. During this time she also ministered as choir director and organist at Our Lady of Victory Motherhouse.

In 1980, Sister Emilie Marie returned to Five Holy Martyrs, her home parish, and ministered as Local Superior and Principal of the school until 1988. During this time she also served as the organist and community choir director.

Sister Emilie Marie returned to the Motherhouse in Lemont in 1988 as the community music minister. At the General Chapter, she was elected General Councilor and appointed General Secretary for the congregation and

held these positions for two consecutive terms until 1998. In 1983, Sister Emilie Marie was appointed Director of the FSC Associate Program. She held this position for 16 years.

Moving forward from 1998 into 2002, Sister Emilie Marie was the choir director and organist at St. Patricia Parish in Hickory Hills, Illinois. Sister was appointed Local Minister at Our Lady of Victory Convent in 2002 and held that position until 2009. She also served as General Councilor and General Secretary for the congregation from 2003-2008 and 2013-2018.

Sister Emilie Marie is a Board Member of St. Jude House in Crown Point, Indiana, and also served on the Boards of Mount Alverna Village in Parma, Ohio, and St. Joseph Village of Chicago. Sister was also a Board member and Chairperson of Madonna High School in Chicago and Franciscan Village in Lemont. Sister is also a member of the National Pastoral Musicians (NPM) Association and has attended many of their annual conventions over the years. She is also a member of the Chicago Chapter of the NPM. Sister Emilie Marie continues to share her gift of music with the Sisters at Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont, Illinois

Congratulations and God's Blessings to Sister Emilie Marie Lesniak on 60 years of religious life!

Sister M. Francis Clare Radke - 60 years of religious life



Sister M. Francis Clare Radke

Sister M. Francis Clare Radke was born on August 25, 1943, in Chicago. She entered religious life on August 27, 1961, and professed her vows on August 12, 1964. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English and also her Master of Religious Education from Loyola University in Chicago. Sister served in the ministry of education starting in 1965 where she became a teacher and then later served as assistant principal at Five Holy Martyrs in Chicago. She taught there until 1980 and also served as local superior. Sister was a member of the formation team of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, starting in 1972, and then later became formation and novice director until 1983.

In 1983, Sister M. Francis Clare moved into leadership of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago congregation by serving as General Vicar until 1993. During this time, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago established the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago Service Corporation or FSCSC (currently named Franciscan Ministries). The goal of FSCSC was to provide better oversight over the

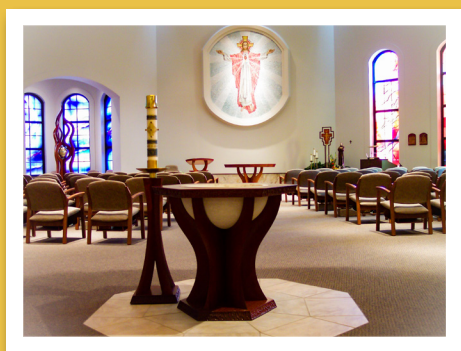
corporate entities and senior living communities the Sisters operated. Sister M. Francis Clare was an integral part of establishing FSCSC, as she served as the first Corporate Director of Mission Integration for FSCSC from 1984 to 1993, laying the building blocks for the overall future growth and development of the company and the Sisters' ministries. She became the General Minister of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago in 1993 and held that position until 2003, while also serving as CEO of FSCSC from 1993 to 1995.

Over the years, Sister M. Francis Clare served as Chairman of the Board or as a member of the Boards for many of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago's entities such as: Saint Anthony Medical Center in Crown Point, Indiana, Madonna High School in Chicago, Mount Alverna Village in Parma, Ohio, Franciscan Village in Lemont, Illinois, St. Joseph Village in Chicago, Addolorata Villa in Wheeling, Illinois, and University Place in West Lafayette, Indiana. She has also served as the Chairman of the Board for FSCSC since 1993.

Sister M. Francis Clare was a Board Member of the Illinois Catholic Health Association and then President of that organization from 2002 to 2004. From 2004 to 2009, Sister M. Francis Clare was Chairman of the Board of the Royal Neighbors of America and served on that Board until 2011. In addition, Sister remained in various roles in leadership as she was also on the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago General Council from 2008 to 2013 and has been the General Treasurer since 2006.

Sister M. Francis Clare has a gift for the arts as she often worked with architects, interior designers, and artists in liturgical environment design in the development of the chapels built in each of the senior living communities. She also continues to refresh Sacred Heart Chapel in OLV Convent with fresh flowers and decorations aligned with the liturgical year and helps with various interior design projects around the convent. Sister M. Francis Clare Radke was honored with the Peacemaker Award at the Franciscan Federation in 2015.

Congratulations and God's Blessings to Sister M. Francis Clare Radke on 60 years of religious life!



Jubilee Masses and Celebrations Will be Held at a Later Date

As we still face uncertain times during the ongoing pandemic, the Jubilee Mass celebrations recognizing these 2021 Jubilarian Sisters (and also last year's 2020 Jubilarian Sisters, Sister M. Bernadette Bajuscik and Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie) will be moved to a later date when all can safely attend the celebrations.

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF CHICAGO ANNOUNCE THERESA DUDZIK INNOVATION GRANT WINNERS

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago have named The Village at Victory Lakes in Lindenhurst, Illinois, Franciscan Village in Lemont, Illinois, Marian Village in Homer Glen, Illinois, and St. Jude House in Crown Point, Indiana, as the recipients of its annual Theresa Dudzik Innovation Grant. The purpose of the grant, established over 25 years ago, is to encourage advances in serving the poor, elderly, and needy by providing seed money for outstanding initiatives.

Submissions were accepted from member organizations designed to increase the quality and quantity of programs and services offered within Franciscan Ministries as sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. Additionally, the award encourages creative problem solving and encourages professionals to document, display, and share their successes with others in a spirit of caring.



This year the Theresa Dudzik Innovation Grant presentations were presented over Computer video Zoom calls because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Presenters broadcasted their presentations to the Sisters and the judges who watched on computers and video screens.

Three of this year's winners are senior living facilities. The first prize winner will receive \$10,000 in seed money to develop its innovation which addresses those depression issues which afflict numerous elderly and have increased dramatically because of the isolation during this COVID period. Two of the facilities joined together on an innovation addressing memory issues of their elderly residents. These facilities will share the second prize

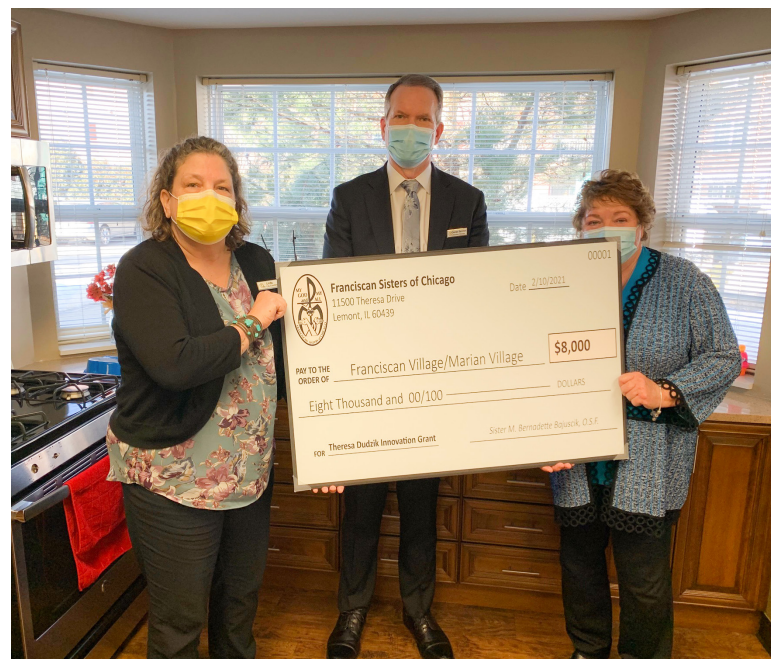
of \$8,000 to implement their innovation to reawaken memories. The fourth facility is a shelter for victims of domestic violence and will receive \$5,000 to carry out its innovation of mobile advocacy to find and help those victims for whom the COVID period of isolation has sadly increased the violence and abusiveness of their significant other.

The first prize winner was the Village at Victory Lakes. This facility is developing a program called, "iNSPIRE Health in a Time of COVID: An iN2L initiative." This project will utilize the technology of 'It's Never Too Late' (iN2L) to engage the residents through group and one-on-one activities. With the iN2L tablet program, residents will be provided opportunities for engagement or game apps; enjoy looking at videos or photos of family; talk with a healthcare provider through the telehealth portal; and video chat with family and friends. This person-centered approach to engagement will decrease the depressing isolation effects of the pandemic.

The second prize winners were Franciscan Village and Marian Village. Franciscan Village and Marian Village will be implementing a program called, "The Music in Me." It is an interactive music therapy program utilizing technology to enhance person-centered care. Research has shown that music therapy produces joy and light-heartedness when used consistently with those suffering from dementia or Alzheimer's disease. Music provides a bridge for these memory-challenged residents to communicate and connect with others. The chosen music



Franciscan Village staff pose with their winning grant check: (From left) Jazmin Alfaro, Donna Stanley, Dan Bannon and Michele Tomich



Marian Village staff pose with their winning grant check: (From left) Linda McCluskey, Dan Bannon and Michele Tomich

app in this innovation allows residents with memory loss and cognitive issues to express themselves and become more engaged with their environment. It also enables the caregivers to better understand and meet those residents' needs.

The third prize winner was St. Jude House. St. Jude House is implementing "Taking It to the Streets," a two-fold evidence-based trauma-informed outreach approach to prioritize the comfort and convenience of survivors of domestic violence.

(1) The program will offer digital (and eventually in-person) mobile-advocacy to victims of domestic violence. (2) The program will create heightened awareness to strategically targeted audiences at locations

identified as places that abusers have historically "let" the abused visit without supervision. These locations include, but are not limited to: grocery and drug stores, laundromats, animal hospitals, churches, schools, libraries, utilities, and home-related services. But given the limitations COVID has created for face-to-face meetings, the mobile advocacy will initially use digital platforms such as Zoom and Facetime, while continuing to promote this and other programs/services via a more traditional brand awareness campaign using brochures, table/tent tactics, and informational presentations, both in-person, when possible, and digitally. This awareness campaign will educate the community about healthy relationships, domestic violence red flags, and how to respond and help victims.

Congratulations to this year's Theresa Dudzik Innovation Grant winners and thank you to all who participated!



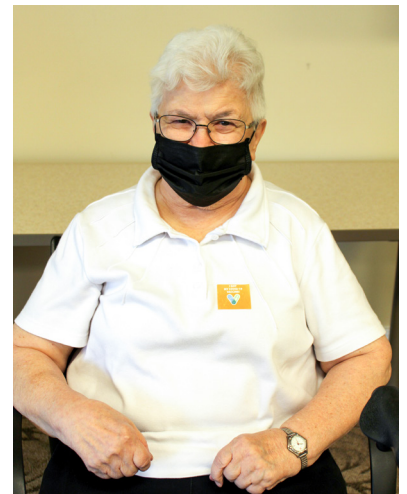
Ryan Elinkowski, Director of St. Jude House and Buffy Adams, Director of Development, hold their grant check for their winning presentation.

I GOT MY COVID-19 VACCINE!



As the year 2020 proved to be one of the more challenging years in recent memory, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago would like to thank all of the front line healthcare workers and the nursing staff at Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont. They would also like to thank all of the workers at the senior living communities operated by Franciscan Ministries who worked so hard and tirelessly during the pandemic to keep everyone safe. The Sisters continue to pray for all during these difficult times.

On Monday, February 8, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago received their second COVID-19 vaccination shot in Marian Hall at Our Lady of Victory Convent. After receiving their vaccination, some Sisters took photos posing with their "I got my COVID-19 vaccine" sticker to celebrate the occasion.



(Left) Sister M. Joella Bielinski (Center) Sister Doloria Kosiek (Right) Sister Lois Marie Rossi



(Left) Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie (Center) Sister Jean Therese Jarosz (Right) Sister Emilie Marie Lesniak

MAY CROWNING



May Crowning is a special Catholic ritual and Marian devotion held during the month of May. This yearly tradition honors Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth. A wreath of flowers is placed on the head of a statue of Mary to crown her and honor her. The month of May has long been associated with the beginning of life and rebirth as the season of spring comes into full bloom. Thus, the May Crowning of Mary is symbolic of the start of the new spiritual season.

The special tradition of honoring Mary in May was first observed during the 13th Century by Alfonso X of Castille in his book of poems, *Cantigas de Santa Maria*. The current conventional form of May Crowning first began in Italy in the seventeenth century as Father Latomia of the

Roman College of the Society of Jesus devoted the month of May to Mary. This soon spread to other Jesuit colleges and then to other Catholic parishes and other countries. Thus, this ritual developed into a Catholic tradition that is celebrated every May.

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago celebrate the May Crowning devotion every year. This year, the Sisters crowned various statues of Mary in Our Lady of Victory Convent and in Sacred Heart Chapel. Below are photos from this year's May Crowning at OLV.



The Sisters crowned statues of Mary throughout OLV Convent and Sacred Heart Chapel. (Left) Sister M. Bernadette Bajusik, (Center) Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie (Left) Sister Emilie Marie Lesniak

THE FIRST SCHOOL

SS. Peter and Paul School, Spring Valley, Illinois

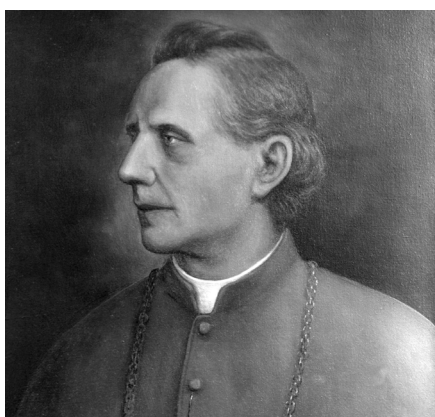
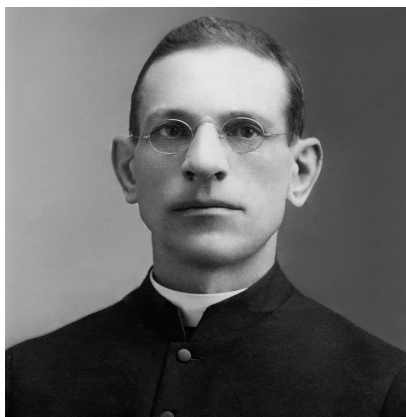


A classroom photo at SS. Peter and Paul School in Spring Valley, Illinois, in 1904.

This article tells the story of how the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago entered into the ministry of education and the early struggles they overcame as new teachers at their first school. Over the years the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago would go on to teach in 44 grammar schools, 3 high schools and at several colleges and junior colleges in several states including Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Many thanks to Sister Anne Marie Knawa, whose history of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, *As God Shall Ordain*, served as an important source of research for this article.

In the late 19th Century, Catholic schools throughout the United States were being established and were growing at a rapid rate. When bishops and priests started parochial schools in new parishes, they often sought Sisters to staff them. This was especially true in many Polish parishes, as often the Polish clergy went to Polish Sisterhoods for assistance in education and running schools. In the early years of their congregation and not long after they were established, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago experienced an increase in vocations to their community, and eventually word began to spread of all the good work they were doing. At that time though, their two main apostolates were in Chicago as they cared for the aged at St. Joseph Home and provided childcare for the orphans at St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum. They had not considered working in education, but that would soon change.

In 1901, the Reverend Andrew Drewnicki, pastor of SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Spring Valley, Illinois, sent a request to the Franciscan Sisters of Blessed Kunegunda (the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago's original congregational name) to have Sisters staff and teach at his newly established school. Spring Valley was a growing coal mining and industrial town on the banks of the Illinois River and had experienced a rapid influx of Polish and Lithuanian immigrants to work there. Sister M. Anna Wysinski, the general superior of the Sisters, received the request and met with Sister M. Theresa Dudzik, (the foundress of the congregation), and Father Andrew Spetz, (the spiritual advisor for the Sisters), to discuss this request. While the ministry of education was not part of their original plan, the Sisters decided it was a worthy ministry to pursue and a noble service to provide to Catholic families. Thus, they consented and Father Spetz pushed the request forward for approval to the Most Reverend Patrick Feehan, Archbishop of Chicago, who gave his permission and encouraged the Sisters to pursue the ministry of education.



(Left) Father Andrew Spetz (Center) Most Reverend Patrick Feehan (Right) The Pioneer Sisters on their profession of vows day: Sister M. Anna Wysinski, Sister M. Angeline Topolinski, Sister M. Agnes Dzik, and Sister M. Theresa Dudzik.

The first challenge was to prepare the Sisters with the training and skills to teach. Many of the Sisters were Polish and could not speak English very well and also had no teaching skills whatsoever. In many cases, they were barely older than the children they were to teach and had only completed elementary school themselves. Thus, public school teachers were hired to tutor the young Sisters in English and provide guidance in teaching school subjects such as religion, reading, writing, history, math, and geography. Many provisions were created during this time to help the Sisters with suitable academic training such as individual instruction, summer classes, and higher level academic lectures.

Three Sisters were chosen for the first teaching ministry at Spring Valley in 1901. These three Sisters were Sister M. Kunegunda Pinkowski who was chosen principal, Sister M. Clara Ogurek who was assigned the teaching position, and Sister Mary Welter who was assigned household duties. These Sisters had just made their first profession of vows and were still very young. Thus, when they arrived in Spring Valley, they had no idea of the challenges they

were about to face. First of all, both the school and the house they were to stay in were still in various stages of being built. It would actually take several months to complete the construction. The other challenge was the large number of children they were to teach, as nearly 130 children had enrolled in the school. Eventually the construction was completed and the Sisters were able to teach the children and have proper living accommodations.



SS. Peter and Paul School and Convent in Spring Valley, Illinois

In 1903, Spring Valley was hit with a smallpox epidemic which caused the school to close. The Sisters who taught at the school returned to Chicago. Once they arrived at the Motherhouse, they were ordered to quarantine themselves from the rest of the congregation were given private shelter in a house that the Sisters owned separate from the congregation. It was a difficult situation for these Sisters who struggled in the frigid winter in this house, which had only a small stove that didn't heat adequately. Meals were carried over and delivered from the Motherhouse in the freezing temperatures and were often cold when they arrived. After the quarantine time was over and it was determined they did not have smallpox, the Sisters were allowed to return to the Motherhouse where they received a warm welcome from their fellow Sisters.

In the spring of 1903, Sister M. Kunegunda and Sister M. Clara returned to their teaching duties in Spring Valley, along with Sister M. Salomea Grabowski. Once they returned, they found that the pastor of SS. Peter and Paul parish had left and didn't arrange for a substitute pastor. The Sisters were forced to run the school and conduct school business themselves. This proved to be quite difficult, but the Sisters focused on the task at hand and took on the challenge. Another struggle was that with no pastor at their own parish, the Sisters would have to walk a mile, often in wet and muddy conditions, for Sunday services to the other church in Spring Valley. This was a Lithuanian parish and there was sometimes friction between the Polish and Lithuanian immigrants.

By the end of the school year, Sister M. Anna and her general council decided to withdraw from SS. Peter and Paul Parish because of all the disorder and chaos there. Mother M. Aloysia Holyz wrote about this topic in her book, *Chronicle of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Kunegunda*. She wrote briefly that the Sisters left because of a riot in the town. The details on this riot are limited as to whether this was in the parish itself or in the town of Spring Valley.

It is possible that this riot was the cause of a strike by the coal miners, which was fairly common during this time, or possibly a food shortage brought on by unemployment in the town. Nonetheless, the Sisters left Spring Valley for a period of time before returning again.

Another pastor took charge at SS. Peter and Paul, and then made another request for Sisters to teach there a few years later. Thus, the Sisters returned to SS. Peter and Paul in 1910, and served another 8 years until 1918. Determined to improve the situation there and help the children, the Sisters worked hard at the school, yet they often clashed with the pastor in charge of the parish and by 1918 decided to leave for good. Eventually the school was closed in 1924 and converted into a parish hall. One of the blessings that came out of the time spent in Spring Valley was the fact that three young women who were inspired by the Sisters who taught them, joined the congregation.

In these early years of the congregation, the building blocks of the ministry of education were established, not only providing training and career paths for Sisters, but developing standards in how to teach children and administer in schools. Let us remember all of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago who worked so hard to provide an education to children and young adults at so many schools in the United States through the years.

DAILY SCHEDULE FOR THE SISTERS		SPRING VALLEY, ILLINOIS	1913
5:00	A.M.	Rise	
5:00	A.M.-5:20	A.M.	Dress
5:20	A.M.-6:20	A.M.	Morning Prayer
6:20	A.M.-6:45	A.M.	House duties (in silence)
6:45	A.M.-7:10	A.M.	Preparation for Holy Communion
7:10	A.M.-7:25	A.M.	Thanksgiving after Holy Communion
7:25	A.M.-7:45	A.M.	Breakfast
7:45	A.M.-8:00	A.M.	Preparation for Class
8:00	A.M.-8:30	A.M.	Holy Mass
8:30	A.M.-11:30	A.M.	Teach
11:45	A.M.-12:00	NOON	Examination of Conscience
12:00	NOON-12:30	P.M.	Dinner, Spiritual reading (with recreation)
12:30	P.M.-1:00	P.M.	Free time
1:00	P.M.-3:30	P.M.	Teach
3:50	P.M.-4:00	P.M.	Visit to the Blessed Sacrament
4:00	P.M.-5:00	P.M.	Preparation for Class
5:00	P.M.-6:00	P.M.	Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary
6:00	P.M.-6:30	P.M.	Supper, Spiritual reading (in silence)
6:30	P.M.-8:00	P.M.	Communal recreation
8:00	P.M.-8:30	P.M.	Correction of papers, handicraft (in silence)
8:30	P.M.-9:00	P.M.	Evening Prayer
9:00	P.M.		Retire

ST. JUDE HOUSE NEWS

Many thanks to White Castle and Women@Amazon for their major support!

Round Up for St. Jude House

St. Jude House is pleased to announce that White Castle has become a new community partner and a corporate sponsor for the annual major fundraiser 'Stand Up for St. Jude House.' This is held in June and White Castle also participated in another spring campaign that was held in March and April. Fifteen White Castle locations throughout the Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana region participated in the 'Round Up Your Order for St. Jude House' campaign to raise much-needed funds for the women and children living at the domestic violence shelter in Crown Point, Indiana. During the fundraising campaign, White Castle workers asked every customer to "round up" their food orders to the next dollar, as a way to raise money. For an example, if the total on an order was \$4.50 and the customer agreed to "round up," their total was raised to \$5.00, then 50 cents would be donated to St. Jude House.



Round Up Your Order for St. Jude House was a successful fundraiser held in March and April at 15 White Castle locations.



The entire St. Jude House team had some fun in the various drive-thru's and restaurant lobbies during the fundraising campaign. Sometimes the team "picked up the tab" for various customers who donated, surprising them with paying for their meal. They also took photos with the White Castle staff and posted these photos on their personal social media accounts, as well as the St. Jude House Facebook page, using the hashtag #mycrave. This was a good way to bring attention to the fundraiser and get people to participate. The fundraiser was also turned into a little friendly competition among the various White Castle locations. The White Castle team at Mokena, Illinois, topped the fundraiser leaderboard for most donations raised. St. Jude House gave the White Castle team appreciation gift bags, balloons, sweets, and special framed pieces of art, created by the children living at St. Jude House.

All the participating locations did an amazing job, and the customers responded with so much love and support. Many thanks to White Castle for supporting the 'Round Up Your Order' fundraiser and also for being a Community Partner and corporate sponsor for the annual 'Stand Up for St. Jude House' variety and comedy fundraiser, which was held in June. Highlights from 'Stand Up for St. Jude House' will be in the next issue!

A Wonderful Donation from Women@Amazon!

Women@Amazon led an internal donation drive among more than 7,000 employees at their Amazon facility over a two-month period. The generous Amazon team ended up delivering more than 9 pallets of nearly a 100 boxes of items from the February “Wish List” equaling upwards of \$37,000 worth of goods.

St. Jude House is 100% funded by individuals, corporate sponsors, grants and foundations. Thus, the monthly “Wish List” leads to several thousand dollars of community donations every year. Because of this generosity, St. Jude House doesn't need to spend money out of its operation budget for shelter essentials like medicine, toilet paper, paper towels, laundry soap, diapers, slippers, pajamas, and many other consistently-needed items.

If you'd like to support or donate to St. Jude House, please call (219) 662-7066 or visit www.stjudehouse.org for more information.



Women@Amazon raised \$37,000 worth of shelter essentials.

MADONNA FOUNDATION

It's been another successful year for the Madonna scholars! Take a look below at all the wonderful things that have happened this year. Many thanks to all who have supported the Foundation!

A New Partnership: Argonne National Labs

To further Madonna scholar interests in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics), the Madonna Foundation formed a new community partnership with Argonne National Labs, a multidisciplinary science and engineering research center based in Lemont, Illinois. The students participated in an online seminar and heard from a panel of women scientists who discussed careers in cyber security, bio-medical engineering, and other new and emerging careers in science and technology. The Madonna Foundation is very grateful for this new partnership and the exciting potential careers that lie ahead for the students.

Career Day

The Madonna scholars attended a virtual career day to gain exposure to potential career paths, in partnership with several very accomplished women who participated in the presentation. The guest speakers included Monica Simzyk, Chief People Officer at Franciscan Ministries, Cathon Threat, Vice President at Lamb Weston, Andrea Urban and her colleagues at Thought Works, Cook County Judge Mary Margaret Brosnahan, and Denise Makowski, CPS School Principal. It was an inspirational afternoon for the students to hear how to set themselves up for success as they learned about each woman's career path. The common theme of each speaker was to follow your passions and not let others limit you.

Madonna Scholar Snapshots!



(Left) Trinity High School students: Isabella P., Jessica O. and Genesis C. (Center) A group of students at Resurrection High School. (Right) Mother McAuley students: Sandra R. and Kylie T.

International Women's Day

In partnership with DePaul University, the students participated in a Zoom presentation for International Women's Day on March 8. It was an inspirational afternoon for students to hear how to set yourself up for success. The Madonna scholars also heard from some recent graduates of DePaul who shared what they are currently doing in life and how they got there. The presenter was a recent DePaul graduate who came from a similar background as many of the scholars. It was great for them to see and hear from women they can relate to.

Service Learning

To instill and foster the spirit of giving back, scholars participated in a number of service projects, including a Christmas project in December. Madonna scholars created beautiful hand-made Christmas cards and treat baskets for the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago and residents of Mother Theresa Home. In February, the scholars created door hangers and wrote letters of encouragement for the dedicated staff of heroes working during the pandemic in all of the senior living communities of Franciscan Ministries and the staff at St Jude House.



The Madonna Scholars made creative door hangers with messages of encouragement for the staff.



A Madonna Scholar at last year's Madonna Mile.

Save the Dates for the Madonna Mile and the Madonna Foundation Trivia Night!

Save the Date! The Madonna Foundation has a few upcoming events this year. This summer they will host a socially-distanced and virtual Madonna Mile fundraising walk for participants between August 1 through August 15. Be sure to register in July so you can receive your T-Shirt. The Madonna Foundation Trivia Night is also back! Mark your calendars for October 1st and get your teams together.

If you would like to help, you may make a donation online at www.madonnascholars.org or contact Betsy Garbrecht at (331) 318-5170. If you are a Madonna Scholar alumna or Madonna High School alumna, the Foundation would love to hear from you. Also, be sure to follow the Madonna Foundation on Facebook at facebook.com/madonnianpride. The Madonna Foundation would like to thank all who continue to help and show their support and carry on the tradition of Madonna High School. It is because of you that the Sisters' legacy of educating and empowering teen girls continues.

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF CHICAGO

EULOGIES



Eulogies are prepared by Sister M. Bernadette Bajusik, General Minister. A memorial has been established for each Sister in the Legacy Fund and gifts can be made in their memory at any time. Often those close to our Sisters remember their deaths and death anniversaries with a memorial gift. When a Legacy Fund gift is received soon after a Sister dies, we respond with a personal note of thanks and enclose the Sister's prayer card that includes her picture. All gifts are promptly acknowledged. Please join us in prayer for our departed Sisters and for all those who loved them.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF SISTER M. DOROTHEA MICEK

Birth date: January 22, 1925

Entered Religious Life: June 15, 1939

Born Into Eternal Life: June 18, 2021

"A cheerful heart is good medicine..." (Proverbs 1:227)

Frances Micek was born in Omaha, Nebraska, on January 22, 1925, and was baptized two weeks later on February 8, at Immaculate Conception Church. Frances was the seventh of nine children born to Frank and Agnes Micek. On April 29, 1934, Frances was confirmed and received the name Agnes. These sacraments, especially Confirmation, impacted Frances in her life and actions. It is not surprising to know that Frances was deeply concerned that her father was not a practicing Catholic and this weighed heavily on her heart. Consequently, at the age of 12, she decided to offer her life to God for the conversion of her father. This promise remained with her and two years later Frances wrote a letter to the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago asking permission to join the community.

Both parents supported Frances' decision to join the convent, but her father told her that she should return home if they didn't treat her right! In July 1939, at the age of 14, Frances boarded a train to go to Chicago to become a sister. The train from Omaha to Chicago passed her house. As the train approached her house, Frances saw all her friends standing on a hill waving goodbye as the train sped along. This act of kindness deeply touched Frances and caused

her to cry. In fact, Frances cried a lot in the beginning of her convent days. She was very homesick. She was only able to control her feelings and stop crying when the Sister sacristan told her if she continued to cry, she'd be sent home.

Frances became a postulant on February 2, 1941, and entered the novitiate on August 15, 1941, receiving the name Sister Mary Dorothea. Two years later, Sister made her first profession of vows on August 15, 1943, and her final profession on August 12, 1948. The beginning years of Sister M. Dorothea's religious life were spent at St. Joseph Home and Guardian Angel Day Care Center. From 1947 to 1950, Sister was at St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing in Joliet, Illinois. After training as a nurse, she went to Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton, South Dakota, as an anesthetist student.

From 1951 through 1982, Sister M. Dorothea ministered as a nurse and anesthetist at hospitals in Atkinson, Nebraska, Huron, South Dakota, Omaha, Nebraska and Palos Heights, Illinois. During these years she served as president of the South Dakota Nurse Anesthetists and Chairman of the Huron Convention of the South Dakota Association of Nurse Anesthetists. Sister also obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1978. After many successful years ministering as a nurse anesthetist, Sister Dorothea attended Sangamon State University in Springfield, Illinois, in 1982, to study Gerontology where she obtained a Master's Degree in gerontology in 1983.

After the internship in Gerontology at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home in Joliet, Illinois, Sister became the administrator at Mother Theresa Home in Lemont, Illinois. She remained in this position until 1987. For a few months Sister received a sabbatical at St. Clare House of Prayer in Kankakee, Illinois, until she accepted a position as charge nurse at Palos Community Hospital in Palos Heights, Illinois. Sister remained in this ministry for eight years.

In 1995, Sister M. Dorothea retired from nursing and took up residency at Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont, Illinois, as a driver and shopper for the sisters, serving as local superior for three years and assistant to the local minister for a year. Finally in 2012, Sister retired completely and dedicated her time to prayer and copious letter writing. Sister loved entertaining the sisters and guests with her funny stories and jokes. She loved to make people laugh. In the 81st year of religious life and at the age of 96, Sister M. Dorothea peacefully entered into eternal life at 8:45 P.M. on Friday, June 18, 2021, to be with Jesus whom she loved and served with all her heart.



Sr. Dorothea ministered as a nurse and anesthetist.

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

NOVEMBER 23, 2020 - MAY 27, 2021

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago thank their donors and friends for partnering with them. The Sisters offer their gratitude and sincere appreciation for their donors' generosity, which has allowed them to continue the ministry started by Venerable Mary Theresa Dudzik.

These donations have helped the ministries of the Sisters in a profound way. Their sponsored ministries include affordable housing for seniors, a shelter for victims of domestic abuse, senior retirement communities, and scholarships for all-girls Catholic high school tuition.

The donor list in this issue is recorded from **November 23, 2020 - May 27, 2021**. The Sisters make every effort to keep accurate records and each gift is acknowledged promptly. Should something be amiss, however, the Sisters ask the donors to call them at once. Inquiries should be directed to Vicki Olsen at (630) 243-3556 or email: volsen@chicagofranciscans.com.



A statue of St. Bernadette kneels amid a profusion of roses at the Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto on the Our Lady of Victory Convent Campus.

RESTRICTED GIFTS

Restricted Gifts enable the Sisters to purchase the items that donors specifically request their donations be used for. The explicit designation by the benefactor allows the donor to become an integral part of the ministries of the Sisters.

Estate of Mrs. Adeline F. Galuszka

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

The Unrestricted Fund is important because it allows flexibility for the Sisters' use. Gifts are directed to where the need is greatest. The Sisters are able to use unrestricted gifts immediately or to allow them to accumulate until a significant need arises. The thoughtfulness of unrestricted gifts is greatly appreciated.

John & Sandra Albee

Jerry Borrelli

Daniel J. Brasky

Sandra Jamison Chafon

Dr. & Mrs. Peter Doris

Rosemary Ellis

Marcia Fernandez

Adrienne Forstneger

Marie H. Gancarz

Josephine Glowacki

Dolores Grantz

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Jacqueline Kaim

Theresa Kolczak

Stanley J. Koziol

Tom & Jolene Mastramico

Diane & Eugene Milkowski

Mary I. Mosser

Ray & Marlene Mosser

Therese G. Nawara

Patricia O'Leary

Neal Ormond

Albert & Helen Schroeder

Reverend Daniel Stempora

James J. Strzyz

Patricia E. Tarczewski

Sophie & Ken Wolniakowski

John & Virginia Zbos

Monsignor John A. Zuraw

VENERABLE MARY THERESA DUDZIK BEATIFICATION FUND



Gifts sent to the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago for the Beatification Cause are sent immediately to this Fund. Gifts received through the League of Mother Theresa are used to cover the cost of operating the League Office and once a year (or more often) money from the League is transferred to the Beatification Fund. Thanks to everyone who has helped build the Beatification Fund. Every step in the process requires fees and the Beatification Fund must continue to grow so that funds are there when needed.

Therese G. Nawara

NON-CASH

The Sisters are restricted by law and policy as to the kinds of non-cash gifts they can accept. Among those items are medications and some used items or partially used items. Some changes in legislation also affect the donor. In fact, Congress passed new rules for deducting household goods, clothing and other items. Unless the

item is in good used condition or better or was donated before August 18, 2006, donors will not get the tax deduction. Congress wanted to stop people from using charitable organizations to dump unwanted items in order to write off a donation of minimal or no value. It is always best to call the Development Office at 630-243-3556 before giving a non-cash gift. Dropping off something the Sisters cannot legally accept often requires the Sisters to pay for the disposal of these items, which assuredly was not the donor's intent.

RETIREMENT FUND

Gifts to the Retirement Fund are very important to us as they provide support in the care of the retired and infirm members of our Community. The rising cost of health care and medicine are as serious an issue for us as they are with the general public. We're grateful for your gifts.

Eileen Fischer
Joan M. Gratz
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jaskula

Stanley F. Kedzior
Joseph Maciora
John T. Warchol

LEGACY FUND

Using the envelope included with this issue of Crossroads is the easiest way to contribute to any of the Sisters' funds and it makes it especially easy to direct a gift to the Legacy Fund. There are several categories to which a Legacy gift can be directed — the two most popular are Memorials (for deceased loved ones) and Tributes (in honor of living individuals or groups). Some donors make regular gifts to this fund on anniversaries as in the case of memorials, birthdays, marriages, and our Jubilarians. General, undesignated gifts may be made to this fund as well as donations for one's own special intention. The Legacy Fund is the Sisters' Endowment, which they continue to grow by reinvesting the income from the fund. A gift to the Legacy Fund also continues to grow in perpetuity.

TRIBUTES

In Honor of
Sister M. Dorothea Micek
Nancy Balvin

In Honor of
all the Nawara Families
Therese G. Nawara

In Honor of
all my Family members
Louise Karwowski

MEMORIALS

In Memory of
Sister M. Jean Adamczyk
Nancy Balvin

In Memory of
Sister M. Amabilis Bellock
Nancy Balvin

In Memory of
Sister M. Claudia Bomba
Robert & Annamarie Bomba

In Memory of
Sister M. Petronia Budzinski
Denise Boudreau
Helen Ganiec

**In Memory of
Sister M. Leonida Bywalec**

Tom & Laura Strolia

**In Memory of
Angeline Cieslak**

Jean B. Cieslak

**In Memory of
Edward L. Cieslak**

Jean B. Cieslak

**In Memory of
Sister M. Alacoque Czartoryski**

James & Straz

**In Memory of
Adeline Galuszka**

Estate of Adeline Galuszka

**In Memory of
Sister M. Jeanette Golojuch**

William J. Napiwocki

**In Memory of
Sister M. Epiphany Gorski**

Dennis Wilde

**In Memory of
Sister M. Alvernia Groszek**

James & Marilyn Straz

**In Memory of
Sister Mary Kulik**

Michele A. Gulas

**In Memory of
Sister M. Olga Kulik**

Michele A. Gulas

**In Memory of
Bernice Last**

Mary A. Grever

**In Memory of
Kathleen Maloney**

Doris B. Jones

Lucy Jones

Maureen Maloney

Anne McQuaid

Joan Nurczyk

**In Memory of
Diane Marzanne**

Jean B. Cieslak

**In Memory of
Sister M. Hermenegilde
Moszczynski**

Tom & Jolene Mastramico

**In Memory of
Walter A. and
Gertrude K. Nawara**

Therese G. Nawara

**In Memory of
Kathleen "Cookie" Obora**

Eugene Obora

**In Memory of
Sister Theresa Mary Obremski**

Sylvia T. Rdzak

**In Memory of
Blanche Para**

Debbie & Larry Butterfield

Bruno Para

Jerry Para

**In Memory of
Mary Reynolds**

Jean A. Reynolds

**In Memory of
Sister M. Aquinas Rogosinski**

Tom & Jolene Mastramico

**In Memory of
Sister M. Methodia Ryzner**

Geraldine Biel

**In Memory of
Mary Rita Rzonca**

Metal Deck Direct

Keith & Karen Urban

**In Memory of
Sister M. Placidia Rzonca**

Metal Deck Direct

Keith & Karen Urban

**In Memory of
John & Estelle Skurski**

Jean B. Cieslak

In Memory of

Sister M. Albertine Schab

John & Bernadette Vlock

In Memory of

Sister M. Marylla Stanislawczyk

Cliff & Karen Chuey

In Memory of

Sister Frances Szczur

Nancy Balvin

In Memory of

Sister M. Natalie Uscinowicz

Nancy Balvin

In Memory of Julia Vargyas

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Vargyas

In Memory of

Sister M. Agatha Walerski

Mr. & Mrs. Van Stout

In Memory of

Harry, Sophie &

Carol Witkiewicz

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Witkiewicz

In Memory of Annette Wontor

Metal Deck Direct

Keith & Karen Urban

In Memory of

Sister Helen Marie Zasadzinski

Rita M. Waters

MOTHER MARY THERESA DUDZIK SPIRITUAL ENROLLMENT NOVEMBER 23, 2020 - MAY 27, 2021

The Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik Spiritual Enrollment Program provides an opportunity for the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago to share their prayer with others in a special way. A monthly Mass is celebrated for all those enrolled, living or deceased. The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago remember everyone who is enrolled in their prayers. The Spiritual Enrollment card with a matching mailing envelope is exquisitely designed and easy to use. It may be used to celebrate any occasion or to remember a loved one. Please be sure to complete the section requesting the donor's name and address so that the Spiritual Enrollment Book has the donor's name as well as the name of the person being enrolled. A one-year enrollment is \$15. To obtain the enrollment packet, please contact Vicki Olsen at (630) 243-3556.





SPIRITUAL ENROLLMENT - LIVING

Very Reverend

Steven Bartzyszyn, C.R.

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Patti Batchelder

Enrolled by Lauren Faxel

Brook Benedict

Enrolled by
Tom & Jolene Mastramico

Sister M. Joella Bielinski

Enrolled by Anonymous

John P. Boles

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Abby Bosarge

Enrolled by Anonymous

Bonnie Covelli, Ed.D.

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Reverend Anthony Bus, C.R.

Enrolled by Nancy Henderson

Sister M. Guadalupe

Sanchez Equival

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Diane Heliker, PhD, MSN

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Adrian Infante

Enrolled by Rebecca Ramos

Raquel R. Infante

Enrolled by Rebecca Ramos

Jill Kachin

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Sister M. Colette Kwieczka on her 70th Jubilee

Enrolled by Anonymous

Donna Kral

Enrolled by Lauren Faxel

Suling Li, PhD, CNS, RN

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

John Mosser, Sr.

Enrolled by Mary Mosser

Mary I. Mosser

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Wendy Oldeen

Enrolled by
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Vicki Olsen

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Elizabeth Pienta

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Rebecca Ramos

Enrolled by Rebecca Ramos

Richardo A. Ramos, Sr.

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Julie Reinhart, PhD

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**Yoette M. Rose,
DNP, MSN, RN**

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Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Sister M. Pureza Rosas

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Reverend Paul Sims, CR, PhD

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Ruth & Gary Solverson

Enrolled by
Elizabeth Pienta

Heidi H. Vanni

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Yvonne R. Vega

Enrolled by Rebecca Ramos



SPIRITUAL ENROLLMENT - DECEASED

Antoinette Amato

Enrolled by Marea Gonski

Steve Barichello

Enrolled by
Christine Schuler

Gary Barnes

Enrolled by
Pat & Joe Budzyn

Lonnie Lee Batchelder

Enrolled by
Lauren Fixel
Donna L. Kral

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Cecelia & Andrew Bratek

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Angela Burstrom

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Huber Dale Cunningham

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Kathryn Dillion

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Franciscan Sisters of Chicago
Vicki Olsen

Corine Foresto

Enrolled by
Deborah Dudzik Wagner

Albina Gal

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Adele Glista

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Pauline Graham

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Chuck Halper

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Art Havenhill

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Nancy & Gregory Santry

Jack & Judy Hereford

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Roseann Shea

Enrolled by
Marea Gonska
Patricia O'Leary

Arlene Stenge

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Autumn Dinner Dance

SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2021

The Crystal Grand Banquets

12416 S. Archer Ave, Lemont, IL 60439

Call (630) 243-3556 for More Information