The scruffy terrain at our mission in Chiapas, Mexico has been transformed! Clínica Familiar Lak Ña Clara is, by any standard, very impressive!

While some didn’t feel it would ever happen and it certainly wasn’t easy, the Sisters of St. Francis held the faith of their foundress, Mother Magdalen Damen, who struggled yet persisted. “I did not accomplish anything, but let us continue trusting in God,” Mother Magdalen said. “God urges me to do this work. God is so good, so very, very good. God will provide.”

Open five days per week, the clinic has pods for x-rays and labs, maternal care and exam rooms. The surgical suite, which sustained hurricane damage while in a Houston port, will be operational once repairs are completed.

The old dispensary building is used for a pharmacy, patient intake and consultation space, dentistry and a residence for visiting healthcare professionals. On the property there are spaces for families to wait, lit walk-ways, parking, and greenhouses growing medicinal plants.

You might be wondering what this means for our annual medical mission of volunteers from the United States? Their help is still needed!

In fact, a small team was sent in November 2022 -- the first since the COVID break-out. They collaborated with the clinic’s staff and Palenque volunteers to treat 700 patients in five days!

It’s expected that future teams will work exclusively at the clinic since area transportation is now accessible from the outlying villages. Discussions are also taking place to incorporate the clinic as part of residency training not only for Mexican doctors but also American.

Yes - God is so good, so very, very good.
At the end of October 2022, Sister Barbara Pfohl received the Jones-Carroll Outstanding Award at the annual NOAH (Niagara Organizing Alliance for Hope) Gala. NOAH trains local leaders and creates positive social change through direct civil engagement. Sister Barbara has worked in many ways to create a just and equitable society for all, most recently at Little Portion Friary, a homeless shelter in Buffalo, NY and at Heart, Love & Soul Food Pantry and Kitchen in Niagara Falls, NY.

Sister Maureen Harris has taken her fourth trip to join Sister Marguerite Wolf at our mission in Tanzania, where she will stay for two-and-a-half months. In 2021, the mission held its first Mission Chapter where the sisters elected its first Tanzanian Mission Minister and Mission Council. Sister Marguerite, Mission Coordinator, has walked with them for many years in different capacities—always with love, encouragement and compassion.

Many of our sisters volunteer their time and talents to serve those in need. For example, Sister Beth Brosmer delivers Meals on Wheels in Niagara Falls, and Sisters Edith Wyss and Barbara Pfohl help at Little Portion Friary, a homeless shelter in Buffalo, NY. Sister Linda Lewandowski volunteers at Journey’s End, a refugee center in Buffalo, NY, where she has witnessed the determination, patience and gratitude of those seeking help. The challenges of learning a language, seeking medical care, coping with cold and snow, not to mention the expenses of securing shelter have provided beautiful encounters of relationship, trust and courage. A cell phone is the friend of the immigrants and asylee because of its ability to translate.

Sister Maureen Harris, OSF, was born in Buffalo, NY on May 12, 1924, and died on March 27, 2023 at the Stella Niagara Health Center.

She proudly graduated from Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart in 1942 then, three years later, entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity community. She professed her final vows Aug. 18, 1947 taking the name Sister Bernetta.

Sister Marion ministered as an educator, teaching in the Dioceses of Columbus, OH, Wheeling/Charleston, WV, and Charleston, SC; and as a convent housekeeper in the Diocese of Steubenville, OH before returning to Buffalo in 1969. Sister Marion served as a teacher at St. Peter School in Lewiston, and a librarian at St. Benedict School in Eggertsville.

She retired at St. Benedict Convent in 2006, then moved to Stella Niagara in June 2012. She became a resident of the Stella Niagara Health Center community in June 2014.
Donations were given to the Sisters of St. Francis Development Fund to remember the following individuals in the prayers, Masses and good works of the Sisters of St. Francis. Many gifts were provided through the use of our greeting cards, which support the care of the infirm and elderly sisters and contributes to the ministry and mission efforts of the sisters.

**Honor/Memorial Listing 2022**

**2022 Honor Listing:**
- Bill Aghiello
- Erin Aghiello
- Cathy Aghiesti
- Mike Aghiesti
- Pauline Albano
- Carl W. Albion
- Alcazaar Family
- Sister Karen Allen
- Ellen Andriatch
- Sister Donna Marie Anthony
- Sister Consuelo Arana
- Sister Lois Bauding
- Mary Bailey
- Donna M. Baird
- Frank Balcerzak
- Daniel Barker, Sr.
- Renne Barolett
- Roger Barolett
- Rose M. Barrand
- Bob Barrett
- Patsee Barrett
- Agnes Barrett
- Robert Barrett
- Lynn Barry
- Joe Barthelemy
- Roseann Barthelemy
- Marilyn Buscemi Battista
- Regina Belt-Daniels
- Karyn Beningo
- Patrick Berdyiska
- Don Beyer
- Trish Beyer
- Bishop McMahon High School
- Sister Teachers
- Teachers
- Sister Christa Biersch
- Barbara A. Blessing
- Gerard R. Bober
- Rich Boyne
- Teresa Boyne
- Sister Beth Brosmer
- Frankie Bruno
- Dolores Brust
- John Buchreis
- Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart:
  - Faculty Members
  - Sisters
- Dr. Robert L. Bull, Jr.
- Thomas K. Burford
- Victoria Burnham
- Busch Family
- Robert Bushnell
- John Buzenski
- Karen Buzenski
- Valerie Callahan
- Anthea Caras
- Marilyn Cardamone
- Robert J. Cardamone
- Frances Carr
- Rosanne Cascio
- Cassidy Family
- Mariella Cersanski
- Carol Chanowich
- Mike Chanowich
- Carol Chenetski
- Dennis Chenetski
- Angela Christopher
- Dominic Churakos
- Dr. John Clark
- Patricia Clark
- Rev. Msgr. John K. Cody
- Betty E. Colella
- Marie R. Colella
- Sister Joan Marie Coleman
- J. Christopher Connor
- Gerard Conrad
- Cindy Copeland
- Steve Copeland
- Bernadette J. Cosgrove
- Robert J. Costanza
- Corine A. Costanzo
- Bonnie Creeger
- Lloyd Creeger
- Susan Creighton
- Kathi Cronin
- Rose Cuda
- Judy Kyle Cunningham
- Patricia E. Curtis
- Gregory Dawson
- Kevin Dayka
- Nicole Dayka
- Sharon Dean
- Cary Deasario
- Louis Deasario
- Sister Virginia Dehner
- Silvia Del Form
- A. Joseph DeMundo
- Kathryn Denzel
- Connie Depowski
- Daz Family
- Louise DiCarbo
- Kelly C. Doktor
- James Dolan
- Donovan Family
- Diane Marie Duffy
- Jami Duffy
- Kevin Duffy
- Suzanne Duffy
- Edith Edgemo
- Sal Edgemo
- Sister Jolene Ellis
- June R. England
- Anne T. Eosso
- Michael Farkas
- Fawls Family
- Bishop Earl Fernandes
- Barbara Solomon Ferrell
- Joyce E. Fink
- Sister Carolyn Fisher
- Piegie Hanson Fisher
- Kay Flanagan
- Mary Flanagan
- Emily Fogarty
- Jim Fogarty
- Vickie Fogarty
- Sister Joanne Fogarty
- Forster Family
- Sister Maura Forcort
- Sister Nancy Forcort
- Ellen Fox
- Larry Fox
- Sister Phyllis Fuest
- Stephen J. Fuller
- Lynn M. Funk
- Suzanne Y. Galbenksi
- Albert L. Gally
- Theresa Gally
- Joan Gardner
- Alan Gelden
- Frances Gentile
- James Gentile
- George J. Gerace
- Polly Given
- Kaley Glaser
- Mary Ellen Goupil
- Sister Jo-Anne Grabowski
- Kimberly K. Graham
- Gino Grasso
- Greenia Family
- Audrey Grey
- Phil Grey
- Patricia M. Griffin
- James R. Guercio
- Karen Gusaualds
- Amy J. Habib
- Vicky Hage
- Alan Halbsen
- Eric Halbsen
- Donna M. Handzlik
- Peigi Fisher Hanson
- Kenneth Hanshaw
- Deborah A. Hard
- Libbie Hard
- Martha Harrer
- Elaine A. Harris
- Sister DeSales Hattenberger
- Heffern Family
- Sister Ruth Ann Heider
- Robert G. Helenbrook
- Sister Aline Henderson
- Constance Herrera
- Margaret L. Hickey
- Caroline Higgins
- Kathy Hinkelman
- Ray Hinkelman
- Thomas Hinkelman
- Sister Barbara Holtzinger
- Holy Rosary High School: Class of 1956
- Sister Teachers
- Deann Homan
- Lori Hooper
- Sister Marilyn Sue Hopkins
- Andrew D. Howard
- Marilyn A. Huefine
- Dan Igo
- Marie J. Inglet
- Rhonda Jacobs
- Jaconette Family
- Rita Jandt
- Theresa F. Jandzinski
- Barbara L. Johnson
- Nora Jones
- Jubilarians
- Fr. James G. Judge
- Aimée Judy
- Matt Judy
- Barbara Lee Kane
- Sister Marion Karl
- Marian Kaspzak
- Judith Kay
- Geraldine Keeve
- James Keefe
- Linda Kelly
- Kenny Family
- Sue Kestner
- Carrie Kierner
- Fred Kierner
- Sister Marcella Kiesel
- James Kilduff
- Diane Kilpatrick
- Sister Therese Kinsel
- Nicholas B. Kirsch
- Sister Frances E. Kirtley
- Crystal Kishminuk
- Judy Kishminuk
- Cheryl Kocay
- Kreitzer Family
- Mary L. Krolczyk
- Cheryl Kuss
- Ken Kuss
- Mary E. Lacerenza
- Marjorie B. Lahloud
- Lally Family
- Sharon A. Lanza
- Joseph M. LaTona, Esq.
- Fr. Jacob C. Ledwon
- Patricia Leonard
- Baldessare Leone
- Frank Leone
- Gloria Leone
- Betty Levin
- Sister Linda Lewandowski
- Madeline Linville
- Max Linville
- Jennifer Lipka
- Rev. Msgr. David LiPuma
- Rev. Msgr. Dino J. Lorenzetti
- Richard J. Low
- Ann M. Luisi
- Mary Jane Lyons
- Sister Nicholas Macorettta
- John MacPeek
- Declan Mager
- Jason Mager
- William R. Manhard
- Adriana Martin
- D. Joe Martin
- Katie Bromser Martin
- Susan Martin
- Lolita Matamoros
- Mater Dei School:
  - Sister Teachers
- Michael C. Matuska
- Ann McChesney
- Fred McChesney
- Mary McGinn
- Noell McKernan
- Carrol McMahon
- Loreta Meegan
- Timothy J. Meegan
- Jacob Mes
- Sharon F. Mes
- Danielle W. Messner
- Grace Metz
- Louise Metz
- Sister Alice Metzger
- Monica Meyer
- Sr. Jeremy Midura, CSSF
- Sister Teresa Miklitsch
- Minor Family
- Peggy Minor
- Richard P. Minor
- Gabrielle "Gaye" Miskell
- Patti-Anne Mitchell
- Sara Montoya
- Rita M. Morris
- Angela Mort
- Sarah Mulcahy
- Paul E. Murphy
- Bethany Murray
- Silvia R. Natale
- Neighbor of 719 West Ave
- Sister Joan Nelson
- Patricia Neuman
- Michele M. Newman
- Helen Novo
- David "Dave" A. Nowack
- Sister Geraldine Nowak
- James J. O'Connor
- Our Lady of Lebanon School:
  - Teachers
- Cheryl Pace
- Mr. and Mrs. Pete Panakis
- Donna M. Parent
- Joanna Patterson
- Sister Christina Pecoraro
- Sister Frances Clare Perry
- Sister Barbara Pfohl
- Paul Picone
- Courtney Piniewski
- Plandowski Family
- Sister Marygrace Polino
- Margaret Powers
- Trish Prendergast
- Bob Price
- Kim Price
- Dan Pugh
- Martha Pugh
- Shelia Quinn
- Carmencita Ramos
- Catherine Dailey Ravella
Stang Family
Sister Lucina Stang
Brain Stanish
Joan Stanish
Carrie Starner
Jason Starner
Jane D. Stefanski
Bev Sterntzke
Rick Sterntzke
Kristina M. Stone
Chuck Strickler
JoJo Strickler
Beatrice M. Stump
George J. Stump
Dave Stuty
Pablo Suarez
Subkoviak Family
Sister Margaret Sullivan
Dorotha Rennard Taboada
Justen Tedesco
“Tim and Suzan”
Gerry Tracy
Mary Tracy
James Trimper, Sr.
Sister Claudina Tucci
Dimitri “Jim” Tzetzo
Elizabeth “Betty” Tzetzo
Ann Varin
Nicole M. Vasko
Barb Ver Steeg
Dr. Mario Violante, DDS
David Vogt
Mary Rogers Wagner
Sister Maria Walton
Patricia R. Wegleiner
Brian Weiss
Weiss Family
Hollie Weiss
Christina M. West
Dr. Gerard Wieczkowski, Jr.
Sister Albertta Wilkes
Sister Marguerite Wolf
Kathryn A. Wood
Alfred “Freddie” Wozniak
David Wuletich
Mary Wuletich
Sister Edith Wyss
Cheryl Yorstion
Howard F. Zelenski
Thomas Zgoda
Jeanne M. Zimmerman
Robert C. Andrews
Paul A. Andruetzcy
Carmen C. Angelo
William “Bill” P. Anstett
Sister Marilyn Archer
Raymond “Ray” D. Arent
Katherine Argy
Leona A. Argy
Anne C. Ariemma
Dolores Aronica
William Ashworth
William R. Askins
Marjorie Aubray
Rita August
Louis V. Augustine
Teresa Aumer
James M. Bach
Joseph E. Baker
Justin A. Baker, DDS
Cynthia Banks
Sharon Vanhooydonk
Barrett
Joseph "Joe" V. Barretta
Madeleine M. Barry
Jennifer "Jeny" R. Bartels
Glenn Barthelemy
Joseph Bartolome
Samuel A. Bartolone
Charles M. Basil
Shirley J. Basil
Kenneth Basile
Karen Marie Bates
Sophie Bateste
Roseann S. Batt
Martha R. Battocletti
William H. Baum
Roger L. Beales
Florene "Flo" L. Beamer
Louis Bechtel
Irene M. Becker
Sister Jean Becker
John K. Bee
Camille A. Beecher
Norbert J. Beiter
Rev. Robert G. Beiter
Brenden J. Benoit
Elaine A. Berensy
Kathryn E. Bergmann
Ofelia P. Bergionio
Patricia K. Besch
Michael J. Beyer
Joseph J. Biagiotti, Jr.
Brenda M. Bias
Bielli Family
John Bieneciki
Rosemary Bienieciki
Sister Mary Ellen Bighouse
Sister Ursula Bighouse
Eleanor A. Bing
Angela M. Bingham
Charles R. Biondolillo
Frank Biondolillo
Bishop McMahon High School:
Class of 1963
Sister Teachers
Adam "Acb" C. Blake
Jan M. Blanc
Sharon R. Blando
Christine M. Blum
Raymond J. Bober
Deborah H. Bobo
Lydia Body
Robert "Bobby" J. Bohn
Robert "Bob" Boisvert
Walter "Walt" Borowiec
Dr. Edward M. Boyczuk
Teresa "Tess" Ann Boyle
Peter R. Brady, II, MD
Virginia J. Brady
Brasch Family
Sister Anna Brennan
Katherine "Kitty" Brennan
Kathleen Cumyn Brennan
Patrick J. Brick
Martha A. Brydges
Louis "Lou" Buchheit, Jr.
Suzanne Bucki
Carol A. Bucknavage
Caroline Hassett Buerk
Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart:
Sister Teachers
Msgr. Robert Bultmann
Angela C. Buono
Victor J. Burgio
Frank J. Burkhardt
Msgr. Burkhardt
Busch Family
Helene Busch-Wopperer
Bustillo Family
Marcia F. Buterin
Carole Butler
Sister Donna Butler
Mary Louise "Belle" Butler
John T. Byrnes
Ruth A. Byrnes
Anne Marie J. Caesar
Rev. Msgr. Richard Cahill
Maria Catt
Beth Jo Calabotta
Peter Calamari
Marion S. Campbell
Susan K. Campbell
Deacon Jerome Campernel
Marilyn Ann Canali
Sister Angela Canavan
Nancy M. Canonico
Ezra Caputo
Lorianna "Lori" Cargiulo
Robert A. Carboni
Frank J. Carey
Graham Ashton Carlson, Jr.
Lauren Carroll
John C. Carson
Brian Carter
James F. Case
Kathleen F. Case-Palker
Mary Corcoran Cassidy
Cassidy Family
Gwen Casten
Barbara A. Caulson
Ernesto Celebre
Jeanette "Jean" Cellino
Sara J. Cellitioci
Hilda Cerecedo
Bernard A. Cesar
Robert A. Chamberlin
Maureen E. Chambers
Charleston Catholic High School:
Classes (1956-1960)
Sister Teachers
Amy Resetartis Cherico
Charles F. Chodor
Teresa Chounianec
Walter T. Chowela
Maryanne "Penny" Cino
Fernando "Fred" Cipollitti
Sister Claudia
Mother Clauer
Anne P. Clayton
Michael Cole
Richard H. Cole
George W. Collins
Jane Collins
Janet Katharine Collins
Kenneth G. Collins
Patricia M. Collins
Elaine A. Collora
Patricia A. Comerford
Douglas "Doug" Conley
Colleen Connor
Thomas "Tom" Connor
Marlene Convey
John Copley
Margaret M. Coppola
James C. Corse
Craig J. Costanzo
Josephine E. Costanzo
Robert W. Couche
Jackie Coughlin
Karl M. Cousin
Jane Lynette Aversa Cox
Edward A. Coyle
Margaret "Peggy" Crane
James F. Creighton
David A. Crist
John "Jack" J. Cronin
Kathleen A. Crotty
Patricia F. Crotty
Dorothy M. Crowe
Clare Leona Crowley
Mary Jane Csokany
Jean Arms Cuddy
Frances "Fran" J. Cultrara
Pat Curtis
Dolores G. Cushman
Diane R. Custa
Annette C. D’Albenzio
Theodore D’Aluisio
Susan Daniels
Patricia M. Danler
Sister Bernice Danley
Eugene L. Darlak
Sister Carmine Dattalo
Howard W. Dauscher, Jr.
Sister Marie Davis
Josephine E. DeAntonis
Shirley A. DeBalski
Mary Catherine "Molly" Dee
Donald M. DeFazio
Ann L. DeFranco
Elizabeth "Betty Jane" J. Deinzer
Paul J. Deinzer
Mary Lou Del Matto
A. Joseph DeMunda
Joseph J. DelVecchio
Rev. Msgr. Michael E.
DelVecchio
Antionette M. DeMiglio
Keith Derocher
Bart DeRosa
Ret. Capt. NFFD
Give the Gift of Prayer

We have a variety of prayer request cards for every occasion. Through prayer, our Sisters provide comfort during times of loss; hope for those who are ill or suffering; blessing and gratitude for those special occasions in life. Benefits also include a share in the Masses and good works of the Sisters of St. Francis. Request cards online at www.stellaosf.org/prayer.

It’s Sister Maura Fortkort who schedules the Masses held in the Chapel at Stella Niagara and she takes care to ensure that all our benefactors are remembered in a special, monthly Mass. There are also Masses for Monthly Club donors and those enrolled in our Legacy Society. We give thanks to our Monthly Club members whose gifts provide a regular income we can count on, thereby making financial planning that much easier. Bequests and planned gifts provided by our beloved Legacy Society members make up, on average, an astonishing 37% of the income received through the advancement office! Consider including the Sisters in your Will -- our legal title is “Sisters of St. Francis of Holy Name Province, Inc.”
Meeting Pope Francis

Sister Maria Elena Larrea has worked with Dr. Ricardo Grzona, president of the Ramón Pané Foundation (RPF) (https://fundacionpane.org/ramon-pane), an organization founded in Honduras under the guidance of Cardinal Rodriguez Madariaga. RPF focuses on the formation of parish and diocesan leaders, as well as various church groups for Latin American families and youth.

When Dr. Grzona received a proposal from the Diocese of Puerto Plata to open the first Cenacle of Prayer in the Dominican Republic, a delegation of RPF sought the Pope's blessing on a stone to be used in its construction. As a result of her work with RPF, Sister Maria Elena was invited to join them when they met with His Eminence, Pope Francis, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 2022. What a gift!

For Sister Maria Elena it was an extraordinary privilege to be with this group of people trying to bring the Good News into this world. When describing her experience of standing near Pope Francis, she exclaimed that she felt she was in the presence of a prophet chosen by God. While speaking with him, she enjoyed his delightful sense of humor and felt at ease. Sister Maria Elena quickly took the opportunity to present him with a copy of the congregation's book, Called by God's Goodness, and extend an invitation for him to visit our Sisters' Generalate in Rome!