Upcoming Events

Christmas Vespers
7 p.m. | Saturday, December 17, 2016;
2 p.m. | Sunday, December 18, 2016
St. Francis Center for Renewal

Marian Hall Night at the Races Event
6 to 11 p.m. | Saturday, February 4, 2017
Mount Assisi Convent

Mount Assisi Academy Preschool Tea & Fashion Show
11 a.m. | Saturday, April 1, 2017
Mount Assisi Convent

2017 Spring Festival
12 to 5 p.m. | Sunday, April 30, 2017
Mount Assisi Convent

Sixth Annual Star Struck Gala
6 to 11 p.m. | Saturday, May 6, 2017
St. Francis Center for Renewal

Pittsburgh Jubilee Celebration
11 a.m. | Saturday, June 17, 2017
Mount Assisi Convent

Bethlehem Jubilee Celebration
11 a.m. | Saturday, August 12, 2017
Monocacy Manor

MAA Preschool & Marian Hall Golf Outing
11 a.m. | Saturday, August 26, 2017
Pittsburgh North Golf Club

New Administration Elected for 2016-2021

A New Chapter

The sisters of the U.S. Province spent a busy and productive first week of August in Pittsburgh for the 2016 Provincial Chapter. In daily sessions filled with prayer, group discussion, presentations, information sharing and fellowship, the sisters developed action statements for the future and elected an enthusiastic new leadership team that will lead the congregation through 2021.

Sister Frances Marie Duncan was elected Provincial Minister, followed by Sister Marian Sgriccia as Vicar and Sisters Barbara Brown, Kathleen Kudlac and Virginelie Makos as Councilors. Sister Kathy also will serve as Provincial Secretary.

During the closing ritual, Mass and celebratory dinner on August 6, the community expressed its gratitude to Sisters Bernadine Marie Stemnock, Jeanne Marie Ulica, Regina Ann Rokosny, Bonnie Marie Kleinschuster and Patricia Ann Mahoney for their service since 2011.

Through song and prayer, the sisters also praised God for the energy and willingness of the new administration.

As the outgoing administration looks on at right, the School Sisters of St. Francis 2016-2021 leadership team is installed during a special Mass on August 6 at Mount Assisi Convent. Pictured from left: Sisters M. Virginelie Makos, Kathleen Kudlac, Barbara Brown, Marian Sgriccia, Frances Marie Duncan, Bernadine Marie Stemnock, Jeanne Marie Ulica, Regina Ann Rokosny, Bonnie Marie Kleinschuster and Patricia Ann Mahoney.
The children at St. John’s Mission in Barberton, South Africa finish another school year in December, Sister Anece Salay reflects on the successes and challenges at the mission, where the School Sisters of St. Francis care for critically-ill and often abandoned children with HIV or full-blown AIDS.

It is the time of year when the sisters work hard to prepare as many children as possible to spend the holidays with relatives or foster families. Most have been abandoned by their families or have health challenges that were not managed at home, including regular use of anti-retroviral medications.

“Our social workers have worked very hard to locate the families of 34 of our children,” Sister Anece says. “In reality, some families cannot afford them or sadly find it more convenient to leave the children with us.”

Sister Anece has ministered in South Africa since 1989 and was there when St. John’s Care Center opened in 1997. Sister Anece is the mission administrator, and Sister Denise Olshausky is director of the care center. The program also is staffed by three sisters from the Region of India, one sister from the Slovak Republic and a small team of lay employees. Sisters Lorita Kristufek and Virginia Rose Carroll also each spent a month at the mission in 2016, teaching religion and music to the children.

St. John’s can accept up to 50 children from birth to age 18, depending on their needs. Most recently they took in a critically-ill 16-year-old girl who had been the primary caregiver of her younger siblings. Due to her circumstances, she was not eating properly or taking her medication and now needs to be on special care.

Cases like these wrench Sister Anece’s heart. The mission’s role will be to help the young girl to get healthy with proper nutrition, regular medication and spiritual enrichment and, hopefully, return her to her family. All too often, children like her return to the mission in just a few short weeks because their daily care has diminished again at home.

In addition to navigating through cultural challenges and government inefficiency, the mission often is charged with helping children who have turned 18 find a place in the adult world. To this end, job training and socialization are key components of the mission’s work.

In the past two years, the program has successfully placed three older children with relatives when they turned 18, and helped four younger children be placed with families. Another teenage boy, a gifted artist, is preparing to return to his one-time foster family. It is these small successes that keep the good work going.

Donations to support the challenging work at St. John Mission can be directed to the School Sisters of St. Francis (Mount Assisi Convent, 934 Forest Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15202) but must be earmarked for “South African Mission.”
The Difference a Dress

When Sister Elaine Hromulak completed her term as provincial minister in 2011, she began a new ministry position at Catholic Cemeteries Association. But she also wanted a new personal project to which she could direct her passions. That’s when she learned about Little Dresses for Africa (LDfA).

LDfA was founded in 2008 to provide relief to vulnerable children throughout Africa and beyond. Volunteers worldwide craft dresses out of pillowcases or other simple patterns. The donated dresses are delivered to needy areas by mission teams and mail for distribution to orphanages, churches and schools.

The widespread AIDS pandemic is especially challenging for young girls in Africa, who often serve as primary caregivers of their younger siblings. LDfA aims to plant a seed of hope among these little girls by giving each the simplest of things that most take for granted – a new, clean dress. As the project’s motto states, “We’re not just sending dresses; we’re sending hope!”

With a dress pattern in hand and a hefty supply of fabric from Sister Mercedes Benko, Sister Elaine began to sew. Soon Sisters Ruth Zacharias and Irene Novak got involved as well. Before long, alumnae from Texas who come to Pittsburgh each spring to assist with the sisters’ Spring Festival, caught the sewing bug too.

More than five years later, the labor of love culminates each April when all the year’s finished dresses are gathered at Mount Assisi Convent in Pittsburgh and prepared for shipment to Africa and other areas. Sister Elaine estimates that her sewing group has finished nearly 300 dresses.

In the past, dresses have been directed to St. John Mission in Barberton, South Africa, where our sisters care for children of all ages afflicted with HIV and full-blown AIDS. They’ve also reached India and the Czech and Slovak Republics. Just this past summer, Sister Elaine provided 75 dresses to the Diocese of Pittsburgh for the diocesan mission in Chimboti, Peru. There the dresses were distributed to little girls – most under age 5 – in the Chimboti orphanage. The missionaries reserved a partial supply of dresses to give to the children as Christmas presents.

“Even in the cooler winter months, the children wear the dresses over other clothing because it makes them feel special,” says Sister Lillian Bockheim, a Dominican sister from Grand Rapids, Mich., who has ministered in the Chimboti mission for nearly 50 years.

Sister Elaine and the Texas alumnae were especially heartened recently...
when they received photos of little girls from Chimboti wearing dresses they’d made. “You just can’t imagine how happy we feel to see these beautiful little girls wearing the dresses we made for them,” says alum and associate Armandina Garcia, whose mother died earlier this month. “The dresses I made were made with love not only from me, but from my mother who helped me pin the back of the dresses when she was visiting me.”

Each dress takes about two to three hours to complete. Sister Mercedes died in 2014, but Sister Elaine and her team are still exhausting her bountiful supply of fabric. They do, however, have to constantly restock their supply of bias tape, lace and trimmings. Over the coming months they will focus on sewing dresses for the smallest children who are in the most need.

To donate or to get involved in Sister Elaine’s sewing group, contact her at 412-761-6004. To learn more about the international project, visit www.littledressesforafrica.org.

Continued from Page 3

Sister M. Aurelia Cerny, OSF | July 18, 1934 - February 12, 2016

Sister M. Aurelia (Mary) Cerny died on February 12, 2016, at St. Clare Hospital in Denville, N.J. She was 81 and in her 62nd year of religious life.

Sister was born in New York City on July 18, 1934, as one of three children of John and Ann Julia Cerny. She was taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph in elementary school before graduating from Pope Pius XII Diocesan High School in Clifton, N.J. During those formative years, her father instilled in her great self-confidence that she carried throughout life, enabling her to accomplish what others thought impossible.

As a member of SS. Cyril & Methodius Church in Clifton, N.J., Mary joined the choir conducted by one of our sisters, Sister Mary Therese Sedlock. This was her first contact with the School Sisters of St. Francis, who taught in the parish grade school. After graduating from high school in 1951, Mary spent time with our sisters, which inspired her to enter religious life.

Mary wrote to the provincial in Pittsburgh, Pa., to express her desire to enter our community, and her pastor added that, as a member of the parish, she had shown love for God and willingness to serve His people. She was accepted at Mount Assisi Convent in Pittsburgh in January 1953. In August, she was received into novitiate and given the name Sister Aurelia. She professed first vows in 1954 and began teaching at St. Patrick School in Canonsburg, Pa.; St. Anthony School in Clymer, Pa.; and SS. Cyril & Methodius School in Clifton, N.J. She also attended summer classes at Mount Mercy College.

After final vows in 1959, Sister Aurelia taught English, religion, science, math, French and political science at St. Francis Academy in Bethlehem, Pa., St. Ann School in Emmaus, Pa., and Blessed Virgin Mary School in Northampton, Pa. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Duquesne University and a master’s degree from Seton Hall University. She later served as principal in West Lawn and Emmaus in Pennsylvania and in New Milford, Closter, Demarest and Denville in New Jersey. She spent the last few years volunteering and caring for her family members while living in Parsippany, N.J.

Sister Aurelia lived her ministry with energy, vision and determination. In later years, life took a different direction as her body was weakened by suffering. She resonantly recovered from open heart surgery in 2014 and, a few weeks before her death, was diagnosed with colon cancer. Sister died peacefully with Sisters Mary Xavier Bomberger, Georgette Dublino and family members at her side. She is buried at Monocacy Manor in Bethlehem, Pa.

Sister Aurelia is remembered for her personable presence, positive attitude and ongoing tenacity towards ministry despite her medical issues. “She taught me determination, perseverance, dedication, to take the road less travelled, believe in myself and the gifts God gave me, and to think outside the box,” one sister recalled.

She was peacefully resigned to the cross of suffering that God asked her to endure, perhaps drawing strength from one of her favorite sayings: “God is in charge.” May she rest in peace.
Our Lady of Angels Chapel at Mount Assisi Convent in Pittsburgh was filled to the brim in June – both with spirit and with people – for the Sisters’ 2016 Jubilee Celebration. More than 250 family members, friends, clergy and sisters joined in the day, celebrating the 50th, 60th and 70th anniversaries of profession for eight of our sisters.

Sisters Marietta Bankos, Joyce Burkhart, Lois Jean DiFalco, Geraldine Ann Kasper, Regina Ann Rokosny, Nancy Celaschi, Virginia Rose Carroll and Nancy Celaschi renewed their vows and celebrated their collective 470 years in religious life.

Late Sisters Corrine Ficery, Doloretta Zugell and Stephen Urbin were remembered posthumously.

Later in the summer, Sister Virginia Rose, who hails from San Antonio, Texas, and entered the community through our former novitiate there, had a celebration with her family, friends and alumnae of the former St. Francis Academy in San Antonio. Sister Nancy, who was ministering in Rome, also celebrated in the home of our General Administration.

The celebration continued in August in Bethlehem, Pa., when friends and family filled Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel at Monocacy Manor for a Liturgy followed by dinner.

Congratulations to our 2016 Jubilarians. May God be at their side as they continue in their calling. We look forward to 2017, when seven sisters will celebrate milestones in religious life during celebrations planned for Pittsburgh in June and Bethlehem in August.

Our 2016 Jubilarians

Our Lady of Angels Chapel at Mount Assisi Convent in Pittsburgh was filled to the brim in June – both with spirit and with people – for the Sisters’ 2016 Jubilee Celebration. More than 250 family members, friends, clergy and sisters joined in the day, celebrating the 50th, 60th and 70th anniversaries of profession for eight of our sisters.

Sisters Marietta Bankos, Joyce Burkhart, Lois Jean DiFalco, Geraldine Ann Kasper, Regina Ann Rokosny, Bernadine Marie Stemnock, Virginia Rose Carroll and Nancy Celaschi renewed their vows and celebrated their collective 470 years in religious life.

Late Sisters Corrine Ficery, Doloretta Zugell and Stephen Urbin were remembered posthumously.

Later in the summer, Sister Virginia Rose, who hails from San Antonio, Texas, and entered the community through our former novitiate there, had a celebration with her family, friends and alumnae of the former St. Francis Academy in San Antonio. Sister Nancy, who was ministering in Rome, also celebrated in the home of our General Administration.

The celebration continued in August in Bethlehem, Pa., when friends and family filled Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel at Monocacy Manor for a Liturgy followed by dinner.

Congratulations to our 2016 Jubilarians. May God be at their side as they continue in their calling. We look forward to 2017, when seven sisters will celebrate milestones in religious life during celebrations planned for Pittsburgh in June and Bethlehem in August.

Where We Are

The sisters of the United States Province minister in three states and on three continents. Also, two sisters from the Region of India serve with us here in the U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>PA</th>
<th>NJ</th>
<th>Texas</th>
<th>Rome</th>
<th>Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>64 Sisters</td>
<td>7 Sisters</td>
<td>4 Sisters</td>
<td>2 Sisters</td>
<td>2 Sisters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sister Marietta Bankos
70 Years

Sister Joyce Burkhart
60 Years

Sister Lois Jean DiFalco
60 Years

Sister Geraldine Ann Kasper
60 Years

Sister Regina Ann Rokosny
60 Years

Sister Bernadine Marie Stemnock
60 Years

Sister Virginia Rose Carroll
50 Years

Sister Nancy Celaschi
50 Years
Sister M. Angeline Frantz, OSF | March 3, 1932 - June 10, 2016

**Sister M. Angeline** (Anna Mildred) Frantz was born in Charleroi, Pa. on March 3, 1932 as one of eight children of **Paul** and **Mary Frantz**. Her father worked in street car maintenance, and her mother was a devoted housewife.

In her youth, Anna was a member of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Charleroi. She was quiet, calm and gentle and brought those qualities with her to the congregation. “Her gentleness was one of her outstanding virtues, and it is for this that she will always be remembered,” a fellow sister recalled.

Anna entered Mount Assisi Convent as a candidate while attending Mount Assisi Academy and continued as a postulant in 1949 at the tender age of 17. She was received into the novitiate in 1950 and professed first vows in 1951 at age 19. In 1951, Sister Angeline began teaching the primary grades in McKees Rocks, Pa.; Tarentum, Pa., and North Side Pittsburgh, Pa., before professing final vows in 1956.

Sister earned a bachelor’s degree from Carlow University in 1966 and a master’s degree from Duquesne University in 1972. Throughout this time, she continued in her quiet, calm manner of teaching primary grades, CCD in parishes, and preparing young boys to be altar servers while serving as sacristan in several parishes. She went on to teach in the Pennsylvania towns of Ellsworth, Erie, Russellton, Canonsburg, Perryopolis and Barnesboro. In 1983 she returned to Mount Assisi Convent to minister at Marian Hall Personal Care Home. She ministered to the residents for 17 years, including five as assistant administrator. Sister requested and received a leave of absence from 1978 to 1981 to return to Charleroi and care for her mother in her elder years -- a way for her to give back for all she received during her formative years.

Sister Angeline took ongoing faith formation to heart, participating in meetings, workshops and conferences to keep abreast of developments in the life of the Church. She maintained her quiet, calm and peaceful demeanor in everything she did and was very dedicated to her responsibilities. Sister remained active in community service until her retirement in 2011, when her ministry became one of prayer.

In her later years, Sister Angeline resided in Antonia Hall at Marian Hall and participated in the life of the community as her health permitted. She maintained her pleasant disposition and beautiful smile through her joys and physical sufferings. She is remembered as being steadfast in prayer, a true follower of St. Francis and having a strong sense of gratitude. She also enjoyed laughter and humor.

Sister Angeline died peacefully with a smile on her face in Vincentian Home on June 10, 2016, at age 84 and in her 65th year of religious life. As gently as she lived, she left this earth to join her parents and siblings who were waiting for her in heaven. May she rest in peace.

---

**Answering Her Calling**

This summer, our sisters welcomed **Sister Gracy Kundukulam** as the newest member of the U.S. Province. After much discernment, Sister Gracy made a formal request to transfer from the Region of India to the U.S. Province.

It may seem that Sister Gracy is already a member of the U.S. Province, as she has served here for a total of 12 years. Just as the sisters have embraced her as one of their own, she too has come to feel at home here. “I feel very accepted here. I felt it when I came here,” she says. “And now I want to be an active member.”

The sisters who were gathered in Pittsburgh for the 2016 Provincial Chapter surprised her by incorporating a welcoming ceremony into Provincial Chapter in August. Each of the sisters gathered in Our Lady of Angels Chapel at Mount Assisi Convent embraced Sister Gracy and warmly welcomed her to the community.

She will continue her ministry of service to the residents of Antonia Hall and remain at San Damiano. “I believe I received my vocation through the prayers of the older sisters,” she says. “I want to help them any way I can.”
Responding to the mandate from their 2011 General Chapter, the sisters of the United States Province have devoted much time and energy over the past three years to transforming seven acres of their property at Monocacy Manor in Bethlehem, Pa. In place of the open cornfield, an eight-foot deer fence now surrounds an organic production farm, community gardens, a small Community Supported Agriculture Farm Share, and demonstration gardens. The sustainable and holistic activities that go on there make up Monocacy Farm Project.

Why a project and not “just a farm?” Why would “School” Sisters be interested in organic farming? More than 14,500 families in the Lehigh Valley live below the federal poverty level, and more than 33,000 families in Lehigh and Northampton counties make less than $25,000. Inadequate financial resources translate into day-to-day hardships, impacting food availability, health and overall quality of life. Our charism calls us “to respond to the signs of the times and the needs of the church.” How could we not be interested?

**CSP: The Heart of the Monocacy Farm Project**

Launched in June 2016, the Community Service Program (CSP) provides weekly supplies of organic vegetables to area shelters, food pantries and soup kitchens throughout the growing season. Because our reach extends farther when we collaborate with others, we operate the CSP in partnership with community and faith-based organizations in Bethlehem and Allentown that provide meals and basic grocery supplies to low-income families and the homeless. This year, the program partnered with seven area organizations to assist thousands of economically challenged families in the Lehigh Valley, and provide more than a half-million meals each year to those who otherwise would not eat.

The community has responded with overwhelming generosity. Grants for a new tractor, tilling implements, a walk-in refrigerator, and a well-water irrigation system made the start-up of the CSP possible. Ongoing operation and expansion of the program to serve greater numbers of the poor depends on foundation grants, donations from area churches and synagogues, and individual sponsors.

**Chip In by Hand or Heart**

It costs about $125 to supply an individual with produce for one growing season, while $500 covers the cost for an average size family. If you are interested in co-sponsoring the CSP, making a donation, learning more, touring the farm, or

*Continued on Page 10*
Sisters in the Spotlight

Sisters Eve Blostic, Rosalia Giba and Marietta Bankos (at left) show off some of the items collected during the School Sisters of St. Francis’ 2016 food drive at Mount Assisi Convent. The sisters collected food in March in honor of National Catholic Sisters Week. The food was delivered to the food bank at Prince of Peace Parish on Pittsburgh’s South Side, where Sister Cecilia Jacko ministers.

*****

Sister Jo Goolish (above) was among 20 featured artists at the Diocese of Pittsburgh’s Celebration of the Arts in March. Held in conjunction with the Year of Consecrated Life, the event showcased the many ways that religious women and men influence the life and spirituality of the Church through the arts.

*****

Of all the communities of religious women that took part in the City of Pittsburgh’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade in March, we were proud to have the most participants. Our group of 11 took the three-mile ride and hike through Downtown Pittsburgh on a beautiful sunny day and enjoyed seeing the tens of thousands of people who lined the streets. The sisters were able to share candy, prayer cards and Meet a Sister, Be Inspired rubber bracelets with the youngsters in the crowd.

*****

Sister M. Virglinelle Makos was named Employee of the Month for May 2016 at Holy Family Manor in Bethlehem, Pa., where she ministered as an activity aide before her present ministry at St. Francis Center for Renewal.

*****

Sister Marie Therese Sherwood attended the Episcopal ordination of Bishop James F. Checchio, fifth bishop of the diocese of Metuchen, N.J., in May. “I was proud to represent the School Sisters of St. Francis and our presence in this diocese, as well as the Catholic Community of St. Matthias,” sister said.

*****

In June, Sister Frances Marie Duncan was awarded a Bene Merenti Award for 20 years of dedicated service to St. Peter’s Prep in Jersey City, N.J. Sister served at the all-boys school for a total of 20 years, teaching science and math, as assistant chair of the Science Department, and as liaison to the Prep Parents’ Association, the National Honor Society and the Adult Ministry Team. Principal Jim DeAngelo stated that like St. Francis, Sister preaches not so much by what she says, but by the way she lives her life of service. The Prep Parents Association also presented Sister with a plaque and flowers in gratitude for her service to their sons. Both honors were bittersweet as Sister Frances left the school recently to become provincial minister in our community.
Sister Roselyn Kuzma had a wonderful encounter with the Network Lobby for Catholic Social Justice when the Nuns on the Bus visited in Erie, Pa., in July. She took part in a two-hour group discussion about living wages, including the challenges facing families where both parents work multiple jobs and single-parent families in which children must be left home alone. “It was truly eye opening on mending gaps in our society,” Sister Roselyn says.

Through the On Mission for The Church Alive! initiative, Bishop David Zubik of the Pittsburgh Diocese invites all Catholics to envision how parishes, schools and ministries can best respond to changing communities and remain vital centers of worship and service. Sister Pat Marie Buranosky is among the religious sisters and lay ecclesial ministers invited to facilitate individual parish meetings where draft models of future parishes are presented. “It’s a grace-filled experience,” Sister says of her work with seven Pittsburgh-area parishes. The initiative runs into 2018.

Several sisters took on new external ministry positions late this year:

Sisters Anita Kuchera and Barbara DeStefano are pastoral associates for Liturgy & Evangelization at the Catholic Community of St. Matthias in Somerset, N.J.

Sister Carol Ann Papp is teaching art to students in Grades K-8 at Northside Catholic School in Pittsburgh.

Sister Patricia Ann Mahoney is pastoral associate at St. Regis Parish in Pittsburgh’s Oakland area. She is working to learn more Spanish to help serve the Latino parishioners who come there from many countries.

Sister Jeanne Marie Ulica headed to Rome in September to begin her ministry as councilor in the General Administration.

In June, Sister Lorita Kristufek spoke at the Pittsburgh Diocesan Summer Institute for Teachers and Catechists held at Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic High School in Cranberry, Pa. More than 150 educators participated in the week-long institute.

Sister Adelina Garcia accompanied 11 young adults from San Angelo, Texas, to Krakow, Poland, in July for World Youth Day.
A principal component of the School Sisters of St. Francis’ charism is to respond to the needs of the times. More than 100 years ago, our sisters came to the United States primarily to provide education to Slovak immigrants. Times change, and our sisters continue to adapt to the changing needs of the people they serve. Responding to a request for more Spanish-language religious education opportunities in San Angelo, Texas, Sister Adelina Garcia is offering formation classes in Spanish at the Franciscan Resource Center in San Angelo, Texas, twice a month. The focus is on scripture. There was much energy, enthusiasm and excitement among the 15 participants during the first session in September. To learn more about the Franciscan Resource Center, visit www.frcsanangelo.org.

Preschool expands its reach

The unique Almost 3 program rolled out by our Mount Assisi Academy Preschool (MAAP) last spring doubled its enrollment for the 2016-2017 school year. Youngsters who aren’t quite old enough to attend 3-year-old classes have a happy alternative in the Almost 3 program, which introduces socialization and basic learning concepts while easing the children into the classroom atmosphere. The class meets two afternoons per week.

Established in 1980, the preschool continues to offer its traditional kindergarten-readiness programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. MAAP is located on the campus of Mount Assisi Convent in Pittsburgh and occupies classrooms used by the former Mount Assisi Academy girls high school. Many children and grandchildren of Mount Assisi graduates have attended the preschool, and some current students are second-generation preschool families. To learn more, visit www.mtassisipreschool.org or call 412-761-0381.

Monocacy Farm Project

In support of the sisters’ mission, some gardeners join other sponsors donating toward extra plots provided for needy families.

Educational Programs

Education is critical to truly impacting poverty and leading society toward responsible environmental stewardship. Monocacy Farm Project works hand-in-hand with St. Francis Center for Renewal to provide ongoing programs on how health, spirituality and wellness are interrelated and lead to development of the total person.

Demonstration Gardens designed to model sustainable practices show what can be done in your own backyard and afford hands-on experience for children and adults. For example, our Pizza Garden provides a fun way for families to plant and harvest vegetables and herbs used in making a pizza. The culminating activity – you guessed it – making and enjoying your own pizza onsite.
It is with deep gratitude that we acknowledge and thank you, our generous donors, for your contributions. Only with your help are we able to continue our ministries. Therefore, you share with us in spreading the Gospel and building up God’s Kingdom. Thank you for your support, and may God continue to bless you.

Please note that this listing only includes donations received between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016.

-A-
ACA Engineering
Phyllis Ackerman
Arlene Adamczak
Rev. Robert Ahlin
Dr. Tony Albertelli
Elva Alonzo
Evelyn Amoroso
Dr. Helen Ifeyinwa Analo
Janet Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. B.D. Anderson
Anonymous
Ajith & Frenny Antony
Stanley & Mary Ann Anuszkiewicz
George & Judith Arangio
Rachel Arcilla-Cagiao
Warren & Sue Arleth
ATC Systems
Marilyn August

-B-
Backos Window Decor
Dr. Walter & Mary Baker
Mary Baldwin
Margaret Barabas
Sister Electa Barlok
Orysia Baran Barshowski
Roosemarie Batra
George Bauer
Lenora Bauer
Rev. Richard Bay
Margaret Bayuk
James & Susan Beam
Beaver County Fruit Inc.
Edward Bechtel
Bill & Frances Beck
Elaine Beck
Joanne Bedillion
Ronald Behrle
Jeanne Bell
Peter & Joan Bellisario
Elizabeth Benedetti
Fran & Renee Benko
Helen Berger
Karen Berner-Michaels
John & Claire Bertucci
Bethlehem Gallery of Floors
Betsy Anne Chocolates
Sam & Joan Biasucci
Suzanne Blicska
Mary Lou Straka Bires
Rev. Cliff Bishop
Bill & Mary Ann Blair
Leonard Blanar
Donna Biasinsky
Edward & Kathy Blistic
Blistic Family
Mr. & Mrs. John Bobola
Joseph Bodnar
Mary Bogle
Meghan Bolsinger
Joseph Bomberger
Sister Xavier Bomberger
Lucy Bostick
Fredric & Joanne Boswell
Roger & Marcelle Boulanger
Victoria Bowyer
Sharon Boylan
Barbara Bozak
Sister Bernadette Ann Bozak
Julia Brandeburg
Cheryl Brandt
Laura Brandt
John & Catherine Brannon
Florence Braszo
Shirley Briody
John & Rosemary Brown
Clare Browne
Dorothy Brownley
Buch Electric Co.
Sister Karen Buco
Bernard Buranosky
Martin & Geraldine Buranosky
Theresa Buranosky
Marianne Burda
Barbara Bush
Bunny Busovicki
Frank & Fran Busovicki
George & Elayne Busovicki
John Busovicki
John & Laurie Busovicki
Joseph & Patricia Busovicki
Megan Busovicki
Dr. Meade & Dorothy Butler
Ellen Byrne

-C-
Joseph & Ellen Calcek
Carole Camino
Theresa Cammarata
Ramona Campa
Virginia Campbell
Margaret Capazzolo
Capobianco Family Foundation
Genola Carrillo
Philip & Nancy Carroll
Philip Casella
Carmen Castaneda
Eleanor Celesky
Martha Cenkner
Elizabeth Ceol
Mary Helen Cerna
Michael & Sarah Chaffier
Mary Chamberland
Ann Chawner
Elizabeth Chengery
Sister Grace Charmack
Edgar & Dolores Cheverine
Natalie Chieffe & Mark Kinsler
Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh
Lucy Chua
City Theatre Company Inc.
Elizabeth Clark
Jim & Babs Clark
Classic Chevrolet
Bob & Elisa Clay
Dave & Karen Clipper
Barbara Coffin
Mario & Donna Colaizzo
Ellen Colwell
Community Care Plus
Concord Advisory Group
Thomas & Genevieve Congleton
Madge Conmy
Lynn Cosgrove
Dr. Robert Costello
Jim & Jan Creedon
Sandy Cribbs
Judith Croxton
Ellen Csekovsky
Teresita Pena Cuellar
Michael & Linda Cullinan
Deborah Cunningham
Robert Cvelbar
Betty Cybator
William Cypher

-D-
Bob & Karen Dancho
Donald & Deborah Danter
Lorraine Darr
Kenneth Dawe
Deborah Herrle Day
John DeBonis, DMD
William Deegan
Claire DeFazio
Rudy & Janie Delgado
Edward Della
Bernadette Hromulak DeMay
Robert & Kathy Dempsey
Maryann Derkits
Roger & Frances Dice
Helen DiFalco
Sister Lois Jean DiFalco
Diocese of Allentown
Rosemarie Doddy
Vincent Dody
Barbara Dokar
Martha Dolinich
George & Donna Donhauser
Anna Donovan
Betty Donovan
Dr. Gabriel Doris
Dr. James Dowd
Jack & Mary Ann Doyle
Dr. Richard Brozewicz
Robert Drake
Frank & Donna Dravecky
Agnes Dubincay
George & Leonarda Dudash
Sister Frances Marie Duncan
Richard & Marilyn Durant
Ronald & Virginia Durbin
Dvorak & Associates LLC
Marie Dworsky
Richard & Rita Dziekan
Our Generous Donors | July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

- E -
William & Marie Egan
Steve & Kathy Elek
Bill & Barbara Jean Ellis
Emery Landscape
Chris Escamilla

- F -
David & Mary Fabian
Veronica Fajbik
Richard Fantazier
Marino & Theresa Fasano
Phyllis Fassio
Felician Sisters of North America
John Fenk
George & Mary Kay Ferrance
Carol Fertil
Gregg & Kristin Ficery
Kenneth Ficery
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
  • Beachwood, Ohio
  • Lodge 424
  • Senior Branch 111-Roscoe, Pa.
Mary Ann Fischer
Sister Alison Fisher
Teresa Fitzgerald
Evangelina Flagmeier
Declan & Erica Flinchbaugh-Wilson
Marie Ford-Clemens
Thomas Fowler
Carol & Loretta Francis
Franciscan Friars
Kathryn Franko
Sister Angeline Frantz
Sharon Fraser
Fred Dietz Floral & Gifts
Nancy French & Joseph Vater Sr.
Nancy Freyvogel
Diana Fries
Christine Burkley Fritts
Ann Fry
Bill & Anna Marie Fry
Frank J. Fuhrer Wholesale Co.
Linda Fung

- G -
Richard & Anne Marie Gazo
John & Loree Gerich
Annette Gerwell
Ruth Gesselberty
Marion Gewartowski
Edward Giagola
Annette Giovanazzi
Diane Giovanazzi
Donna Giovanazzi
James Glancy
John & Charlotte Glinski
Anthony Glodava
Sister Marie Glodava
Gloria Savulchak
William & Mary Goceljak
Terrence & Mary Ellen Godek
Ginny Goehring
Patricia Golembiewski
Larry & Chris Golien
Rev. John Joseph Gonchar, OFM
Mary Gonzales
Goodyear Tire Center of Bellevue
Sister Jo Goolish
Bonnie Graboski
Nancy Mayornick Gray
Barrett & Sara Greenlee
Rev. Bernard Grega
Thomas Griffin
Martha Gritz
Rose Mary Gubser
George & Jean Guentner
Irina Guerrero
Andrew Guff

- H -
Bernice Butler Haig
Mary Louise Hamas
Keith Hamilton
Colleen Haney
Donna Hastings
Rev. George Hazler
Theresa Healy
Daniel & Pamela Heist
John & Margaret Heist
Gregory & Adelaide Heist Jr.
Constance Heller
Thomas Hempel
Mildred Herness
Nancy Hirko
Lois Hlavac
Meghan Hoerster
John Hoffner
Louise Holva
Paul & Sylvia Horvath
Diane Houser
Corey Howard
Albert & Helen Hromulak

- I/J -
Celia Ibarra
Incarnation of Lord Parish
Robert & Dorothy Ingram
Nataraj & Marianne Iyer
Christine Jacko
Helen Jaketic
Lawrence Janicko
Rosemary Janik
Jan & Krystyna Jarosznski
Rev. Frank James Jasper
Marian Yavorka Jobe
Janet Jones-Owen
Bernadette Jordan
Andrew Jurick
Estate of Joseph Jurick
Margie Brassil & Jerry Jurick
Sister Genevieve Mary Jurick
Greg & Diane Juszkiewicz

- K -
Mary Donatelli Kahn
Cortney Kalfas
Robert & Andrea Kalfas
Jeff & Nancy Kammersell
Constance Karrs
Mary Ann Kaylor
Maryann Kearns
Mary Ann Kelemen
Ethel Kellahan
Paula Kiernan
Josette Kight
Carolyn King
Viola Marie King
Jeanne Krenicky Kipp
Andrew & Debbie Klapak
Helen Klapak
Michael Klapak
Edward & Susan Klein
Anna Kleinschuster
S. Bonnie Marie Kleinschuster
Anne R. Kline
George & Elizabeth Kline
Ronald & Beverly Klinefelter
Ruth Ann Sabol Kloc
Joann Klucarsits
Sister Agnes Knapik
Clare Knapp
Evelyn Knapp
Charles & Mary Ann Knoer

- L -
Antoinette La Marca
Kati LaBuda
Patricia LaBuda
Raymond LaBuda
Sharon LaBuda
Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union
  • Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
  • St. Mary's Branch 64
Pat Spisak LaMaur
Mary Greer Landon
Rey & Mary Lou Lara
Regis Leach
John Lee
Lehigh Valley Community Foundation
Lydia Lehner
Rev. Richard Lelonis
Christine Lewandowski
Dolores Lezark
Anne Liberati
Jacqueline Liberatore
Margaret Libsch
Life Long Learning
Loretta Link
Lins Elevator Service
Richard Lintz
Our Generous Donors | July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

You Did It!

In early 2016, we appealed to our benefactors to help us make our Spring Festival the most successful ever by supporting our raffle ticket fundraiser, making cash donations, donating baked good and prizes, or spending time with us on the big day. With the overwhelming generosity of our families, friends, alumnae and benefactors, we raised more than $54,000 for our ministries! We couldn’t be more grateful that all of you helped us to reach our goal. We are truly blessed.

Below: Sister Barbara Ann Webster (center) hams it up with associates John and Ruth Gesselberty in the Selfie with a Sister booth at the 2016 Spring Festival.

- M -
Louis Machovsky
John & Deborah Maciak
Ilva Madej
Ross Madia
Patricia Mahler
Sister Patricia Ann Mahoney
Paula Barr Majersky
Helen Malone
Catherine Mancuso
Patricia Mannie
Helen Maracek
Margaret Marek
Mike & June Maring
Albert & Janice Markewinski
Mary Lou Markovich
Nancy Markovich
Dorothy Marley
Stephen Marsch
Gary Martell
Judy Marteney
Msgr. John Martin
Paul E. Martin Jr.
Joseph & Andrea Masicantoni
Robert & JoAnna Matey
John Matiasic
Bernard & Lena Matyk
Margaret Mazur
Linda McAndrew
Jim McCartan
Robert & Doris McCarthy
Mary Riordan McCloskey
William & Joan McClure
Helen McComb
Patrick & Cynthia McCullough
Joseph & Katherine McDonough
Joanne McFarland
Annabelle McGannon
Arlene McGannon
Kristen McGuire
Suzanna McMahon
John & Tusa McNary
Linda Hams Meisner
Robert & Emily Merski
Paul & Veronica Metro
Metz Culinary Management
Diana Meyer
Edward & Anita Michaylra
Drs. Bryan & Jay Micucci
Edward Mihaly
John & Mary Ann Mikitka

- P/Q -
John & Donna Pace
Paul & Carol Pachuta
Janet Pajak
Theresa Palazzi
Rosemary Palumbo
Francis & Mary Beth Parana
Sister Francesca Parana
Anthony & Donna Pasek
Anna Pavlic
Nancy Pavlik
Phyllis Pavlik
Sister Florence Pawlicki
Geralyn Payne
Mary Heyl Pecora
Charles Pecsek
Stephen Pecuch
JoAnne Pekarik
Casimir Pellegrini
Joan Penzenstadler
Frank & Bernice Petrarca
Rose Petro
Karl Pfeffer
Most Rev. Michael Pfeifer
PHA Interdiocesan Fun
for Religious
Joseph Phillips
David & Gale Pifer
Edward & Jean Pillar
Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation
Michael & Susan Pizur
Kelly Plovc
Mary Clare Plucinsky
Pauline Polding
Sister Antoinette Popovic
Russell & Deborah Poppleton
Marlene Porter
Carole Preskar
Anthony & Judith Prezioso
Prince of Peace Parish
Priscilla Payne Hurd Foundation
Dorothy Derbish Pudysz
Catherine Puskarich
Denise Quayle

- R -
Joan Rae
Joe & Lynne Rajsteter
John Rakszawski
Juan & Rose Marie Ramirez
Donations Made in Memory

Edward Fijewski Jr.
Dr. Francis & Gilda Hurte

Richard Fitzgerald
Teresa Fitzgerald

Mary J. Ford
Robert & Marguerite Carlin
Theresa Gierula
HCSC-Laundry
Kosalko Family
Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union
Lehigh Valley Okres
Russell & Donna Rice
Dale & Maryann Sine

Sister Angeline Frantz
Frank & Bernice Petrarca
Vincentian Charitable Foundation

Sister Marcelline Golecjack
Anonymous

Joseph Grabarits
Andry & Gerry Filipovits
Barbara Heisler
Lars & Theresa Knauss
Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Kosman
Christopher Palenchar
Kathleen Pyles
Mike & Nancy Schneider
John & Terry Skrapits
Joseph Skrapits
Ronald & Linda Smith
Ann Weber
John & Maryellen Yost

Rose Horn
Rev. Gary & Linda Walbert

Andrew Katrinak
Catherine Gerencser
Andrew & Jeanne Harabal

Annamae Klopack
Cathy Pavlo Policare
Various

Sister Magdalene Lovrich
Linda Meisner
Ronald Slomski

Bernard Makovsky
Joseph & Patricia Grabarits

Melissa Makovsky
Joseph & Patricia Grabarits

Sister Anna Catherine Melichar
Rosemary Janik
Joseph & Joan Stelmack

Sister Marietta Bankos
Mary Bogle

Sister Pat Marie Buranosky
Col. Robert & Elizabeth Munhall

Sister Genevieve Mary Jurick
Judy Marteney

Jack & Marie Kraig
Tilmer & Mary Ellen Sober

Sister Norberta Kralosky
Larry & Chris Golen

Donations Made in Honor

Sister Marcella Meluch
Teresa Fitzgerald

Sister Concepta Mino
Nancy Mayornick Gray

Constance Musiol
Katherine O’Neill

Angela Tutaier Myers
Barbara Myers Lugalia

Coil Pensock
Gwenn Amos
George & Eileen Conroy
Peter & Bernida Hiltpold
Carey Little
Catherine McGeehan & Friends from Enterprise Applications
Cathy Pavlo Policare
Harry & Lora Nork

William Polak
Matthew & Lydia Bednarik
Cynthia, Ashley & Alyssa Heffner
Pat Hlavinka
Jean F. Libricz
George & Florence Macasevich

Edward Sheredy
Florence Sheredy & Family

Sister Clementine Skalicky
Emil Skalicky

Phyllis Stemnock
The Mary Sabol Family

Edward Strisovsky
Clifford & Diane Collins
Ronald & Patricia Costello
Christina Formichella
Ann Fry
Kevin & Lori Gasiorowski
Robert & Fay Ann Horvath
Lewis & Barbara Perdick
Richard & Gail Perdick
Edward & Linda Strisovsky
Paul & Sharon Strisovsky
George & Leona Wagner
Jeanne Weiser

William Thompson
Phyllis Ackerman
Fredric & Joanne Boswell
Sandy Cribbs
Richard & Marilyn Durant
Diane Houser
Nataraj & Marianne Iyer
Jan & Krystyna Jarosznski
Paul Kocis
Virginia Kocis
Thomas & Ellen Kryskie
Life Long Learning
Joyce Miller
James & Donna Spinhirne
Roger & Deborah Stranahan
Michael Sujka
Annette Thompson
Donald & Joan Thompson
Scott, Dottie & Alexis Thompson
Sandra Tyukodi

Sister Lawrence Waxman
Germaine Brown

Cynthia Bednar
James Norris

Fonda Bendenwritter
Florence Sheredy

Elizabeth Benedetti
Mary Sabol

Benko Family
Renee Benko

Frank M. Berchin
Denise Quayle

Lisa Bica
Robert & Lisa Stemnock

Sister Mary Biskup
Dr. John & Donna Marie Tomley

Sister Ann Margaret Bolf
Edgar & Dolores Cheverine
Laura Spadaro

Philip Carroll
Ed & Janice Weber

Sister Aurelia Cerny
Rachel Arcilla-Cagiao
Stephen & Patricia Bedics
Mary-Anne Colucci
John & Canice Cristofolletti
Dr. Charles & Mary Emala
Michael & Regina Fina & Family
Mono Grbic
John & Diane Hardock
Grace Kelleher
Sister Marie Bernadette Kelleher
Mr. & Mrs. Rogelio Landrito
Frank & Mary Lazorik
Victoria Maiorino
Stephen & Rosemarie Merola
Edward & Carol Anne Miller
Teresita Miranda
Judith Johnson Neyhart
Carl Rapisarda
Frank & Margaret Skladany
Joseph Sobota Family
Rev. Gary & Linda Walbert
Women’s Cornerstone Sisters of Closter, N.J.

Sister Virginia Cummings
George & Mary Kay Ferrance
Kenneth & Arlene Moeller
Evelyn Sken
Roland Sken
Frederick & Karen Ann Skrocki

Mary Dobransky
Joseph & Joan Stelmack
Robert & Betsy Swaditch

Sister Marcia Fidishun
Suzanne Bilicska

15
Soup’s On at Marian Hall!
The perennial Marian Hall Home soup sale at Mount Assisi Convent in Pittsburgh is back and better than ever with more soup varieties and an all-new menu of side dishes. The *Soups & Sides Sale* runs weekly through April 21, 2017. Each week, two soup varieties and one side dish are offered – each for $5 per quart – with offerings repeating every six weeks.

Call **412-761-6004** to place your order by 12 p.m. each Thursday, and pick up your order beginning at 1 p.m. on Friday. We highly recommend calling to verify the particular week of the cycle before placing your order. Proceeds benefit Marian Hall programs.

Due to holiday schedules, no sales will be conducted on November 25, 2016 (Thanksgiving), December 23, 2016 (Christmas), December 30, 2016 (New Year’s) or April 14, 2017 (Easter).

---

**Star Struck Gala Transports Patrons to New Orleans and, in 2017, India**

St. Francis Center for Renewal’s sixth annual Star Struck Gala & Silent Auction treated more than 200 guests to *A Taste of New Orleans* last spring with wonderful prizes and a giant silent auction.

Mullen Hall in Bethlehem, Pa., was transformed into the streets of New Orleans by night with ornate decorations in teal and purple hues. Patrons were treated to a flavorful meal of salmon, chicken, beef and sides, as well as delicious rum punch.

[Sister Rene Parent](#), who was among the **Women of Strength** award recipients, expressed humble gratitude in her acceptance speech. The event raised around $30,000 for Renewal Center programs.

The 2017 Star Struck Gala will feature *The Splendor of India* on Saturday, May 6. A silent auction and the 2017 **Women of Strength** awards will highlight the evening.

Please visit [www.stfrancisctr.org](http://www.stfrancisctr.org) for more information about the 2017 Gala, as well as upcoming retreats and education programs.

**Sisters Rene Parent and Marguerite Stewart enjoy the 2016 Gala.**