inSpirit

SISTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS
SPRING/SUMMER 2017

Sisters of the Holy Cross

Vol. 5, No. 2 – Spring/Summer 2017
inSpirit is published three times annually by the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

Sisters of the Holy Cross
Founded in 1841 in Le Mans, France, the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross is an international community of women religious whose motherhouse is located in Notre Dame, Indiana. We are called to participate in the prophetic mission of Jesus to witness God's love for all creation. Our ministries focus on providing education and health care services, eradicating material poverty, ending gender discrimination, and promoting just, mutual relationships among people, countries and the entire Earth community.
To learn more, visit www.cscsisters.org.

Leadership Team
Sister M. Veronique (Wiedower), CSC
Sister Sharlet Ann Wagner, CSC
Sister Angela Golapi Palma, CSC
Sister Brenda Cousins, CSC
Sister Suzanne Brennan, CSC

***inSpirit* Team**
Editor: Amy H. Smessaert
Contributors: Holy Cross Sisters Ellen Mary (Taylor), Margaret Mary Lavonis, M. Rose Edward (Goodrow); Sister Florence Deacon, OSF; Leslie Choitz, Hugo Garza, Ruth Johnson, Fonda Seifert, Dana Taylor, Jessica Temple, Alex Uryga
Designer: Elissa Schmidt

Send story ideas, articles, photographs and comments to communications@cscsisters.org or
Communications Office
Sisters of the Holy Cross
100 Lourdes Hall – Saint Mary's
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556-5014
(574) 284-5728, fax: (574) 284-5577

inSpirit is printed on Chorus Art Silk Text (contains 50 percent recycled with 25 percent post-consumer fiber).

© 2017 Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, Notre Dame, Indiana.
All rights reserved.

Dear Friends,

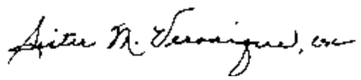
For more than 175 years, the Sisters of the Holy Cross have been engaged in meeting the needs of God's people and building relationships—doing and being—wherever we are sent. In this sacred ministry, we follow in the footsteps of the Risen Christ and listen for the promptings of the Spirit. The stories in this issue of *inSpirit* tell of the myriad and creative ways people have responded to the Spirit's promptings. Sometimes the response is planned, and the result of years of sustained effort. Sometimes people respond spontaneously to immediate needs, with trust that God's provident care will bring the strength and creativity needed to carry the work to completion.

This issue also highlights the important relationships that are nurtured by all who share our charism of compassion and hope. Young children, associates, novices and sisters of every age witness to the community of faith that builds up and makes visible the Reign of God in places close at hand and far away. Sisters of the Holy Cross join hands with the Marianites of Holy Cross and the Sisters of Holy Cross, with families in need and families with their own gifts to share. We join hands and hearts with one another to celebrate, to pray, to teach, to affirm, to remember, and just to be as we engage in the work God has entrusted to each of us.

The *Constitution and Statutes* of the Sisters of the Holy Cross reminds each sister that the Gospel is our rule of life. In reality, the Gospel is rule of life for all Christians. Most of the Gospel is taken up with the life and works of a human-divine Jesus. However, its stories of Pentecost remind us of a God of surprises, and that we must be caught up in relationship with the unseen God, a Spirit who blows where She will and hovers over chaos—bringing life and hope, disturbing and comforting.

May you find inspiration and strength of the Spirit in these stories from life in Holy Cross around the globe. Together may we continue to trust in and encounter God's transforming Spirit as the world is shaped anew in hope and peace.

Pentecost Blessings,



Sister M. Veronique (Wiedower), CSC
President, Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross

TABLEOFCONTENTS

7
Unexpected delight
A youngster's gift from the heart

9
Three branches of Holy Cross
Celebrate 175th anniversary in Africa

13
Gifted connection
Donation brings families together to pray for healing

19
Investments help shape garment industry
Improving worker safety in Bangladesh

4 **SISTERS RECEIVE MEDAL FOR WARTIME NURSING**

6 **HOLY CROSS INSPIRES ASSOCIATE**

14 **MUSIC, SWEET MUSIC**

15 **GRANT THEM PEACE**

17 **CIRCLE OF SAINTS**

18 **MOREAU GARDEN & RECURRING GIFTS**

ONTHECOVER

TOP LEFT: Sister Jamuna Magdeline Gomes, CSC, and students in Bhadun, Bangladesh. Story on page 8.

TOP RIGHT: Bishop Robert Muhiirwa, CSC, of the Diocese of Fort Portal, presents Sister Sharlet Ann Wagner, CSC, with a certificate commemorating the Congregation's 50 years in Uganda and thanking the sisters for their service in the diocese. Story on page 16.

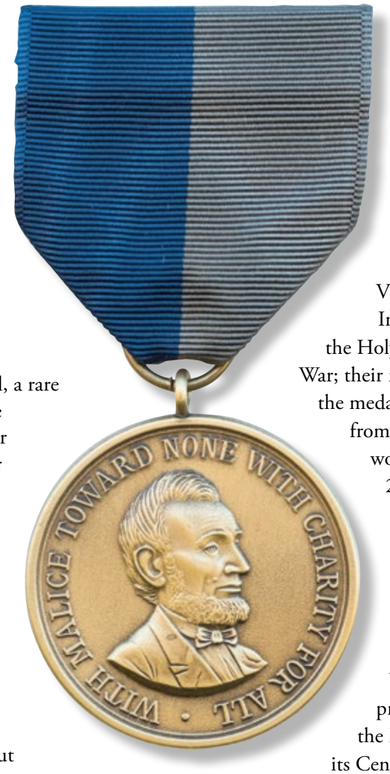
BOTTOM LEFT: Sister Noylí Margot Ríos Manzo, CSC, celebrates first Communion day in Lima, Peru. Story on page 12.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Volunteer Daniel R. Flowers and Sister Anna Mae Golden, CSC, navigate the app "Willing Hearts: Sisters of the Holy Cross, Civil War Nurses." Story on page 10.

Holy Cross sisters receive U.S. Army Civil War Campaign Medal for service as nurses

A once-in-a-lifetime event

Although the American Civil War ended 150 years ago, the U.S. Army Civil War Campaign Medal was presented to the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 2016 in recognition of their service as nurses for wounded Union and Confederate soldiers. The presentation was made possible through a collaborative effort led by a retired Army lieutenant colonel, a congresswoman and the U.S. Army Center of Military History.



"The Civil War Campaign Medal, a rare honor awarded in recognition of the sisters' selfless service, is a sign of our gratitude as a nation and a reminder of the price of freedom," wrote U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski of Indiana's 2nd District in a letter read by Ben Parsons, constituent liaison, at the November 30 ceremony at the Congregation's motherhouse on the Saint Mary's campus. "The compassion and care these Sisters of the Holy Cross showed for their countrymen reflect the very best not only of our state but of our entire nation. Their legacy lives on in the dedicated public service of this congregation that continues today, and these medals will serve as a lasting tribute to their brave actions."

Sisters answer the call of President Lincoln

Sisters of the Holy Cross served as Army nurses on the hospital ship USS Red Rover, a side-wheel steamer, which sailed throughout the Ohio and Mississippi River Valley for the Western Gunboat Flotilla. The sisters were forerunners of the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps. Women of Holy Cross also served in 16 military hospitals on land and cared for soldiers from the North and the South in Paducah and Louisville, Kentucky; Mound City and Cairo, Illinois; Memphis, Tennessee; St. Louis and Franklin (Pacific City), Missouri; West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Wheeling, West Virginia; and Washington, D.C.

In all, approximately 67 Sisters of the Holy Cross served as nurses in the Civil War; their names were read aloud as part of the medal presentation ceremony. Sisters from 12 other Roman Catholic orders of women religious, representing 20 distinct communities, also nursed sick and wounded soldiers during the war, according to Ellen Ryan Jolly's book, *Nuns of the Battlefield.*

In accepting the medal for the Congregation, Sister M. Veronique (Wiedower), CSC, president, said, "Thank you to the Department of the Army and its Center of Military History for the privilege of receiving these medals in honor of our Sisters of the Holy Cross who cared for and nursed the wounded in the American Civil War. These sisters answered the call of President Abraham Lincoln and Governor Morton of Indiana to minister to all soldiers in need in order to help preserve the Union.

"The 'yes' of our Congregation and so many other women religious at this period in our history gave birth to the ministry of health care that has grown and developed in this country," Sister Veronique continued.

"These sisters read the signs of their time, and responded with generosity and courage, whether on the battlefields or by staying 'at home' in the educational and pastoral ministries to which they were assigned. Each in her own way contributed to preparing for a world better than her own; each found the seeds of resurrection amid the chaos and the cross of war."

An inspired idea

The idea to present the medal to the Sisters of the Holy Cross was sparked when retired Army Lt. Col. Michael A. Ferrill, who served in Vietnam, was doing Civil War research in the Congregation's archives. He soon realized the extent of the sisters' service as nurses, and wanted to honor them for serving their country, particularly for the respect and dignity they showed in caring for soldiers of both the Union and the Confederacy.

After researching the Civil War Medal, Mr. Ferrill then reached out to Congresswoman Walorski's office which contacted the Department of the Army and its Center of Military History in Washington, D.C., about the process to secure a medal for the sisters. Several months later, Rep. Walorski's office received a letter from the Center of Military History from Richard S. Moore, director, Field Programs.

The letter reads in part: "…The U.S. Army Center of Military History, on behalf of the Secretary of the Army, is honored to award the Civil War Campaign Medal to the Sisters of the Holy Cross, Notre Dame, Indiana, for their service during the American Civil War from 1861-1865. … These nurses performed an essential role in caring for the many wounded and sick soldiers and sailors who fought in the Western Theater during the war. …The selfless caring provided by the Sisters of the Holy Cross, and other Catholic nuns across the country, during the Civil War cannot be measured beyond the pain and suffering they assuaged."

continued on the next page

TOP LEFT: Retired Army Lt. Col. Michael A. Ferrill salutes the Sisters of the Holy Cross for their service as nurses who cared for sick and wounded soldiers of both the Union and the Confederacy during the American Civil War. Ferrill led a collaborative effort to present the U.S. Army Civil War Campaign Medal to the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

TOP INSET: Ben Parsons, constituent liaison for U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski of Indiana's 2nd District, presents the U.S. Army Civil War Campaign Medal to Sister M. Veronique (Wiedower), CSC, president, who accepted it on behalf of the Congregation. Congresswoman Walorski's office worked with the U.S. Army Center of Military History to present the medal to the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

BOTTOM INSET: Sister Catherine Osimo, CSC, director of Congregational Archives and Records, receives, on behalf of the Congregation, an American flag that flew over the U.S. Capitol as part of the U.S. Army Civil War Campaign Medal ceremony honoring Holy Cross sisters who served as nurses during the war. Sister Catherine prepared the program for the November 30, 2016, ceremony.

Holy Cross inspires service and giving

Yolanda Zielinski is a very busy woman who is enthusiastic about life, her family and her church. One doesn't have to talk to her very long, however, to find out that she is especially enthusiastic about the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

Yolanda Zielinski

Yolanda's first contact with the sisters was when she and her husband, Zeke, came to St. Ignatius Martyr Catholic Church in Austin, Texas, in 1970. Through the years, she watched the sisters and was impressed with their strength and with what they were quietly accomplishing. When the sisters opened their associate program, she jumped at the opportunity to know them better. She attended the very first meeting and has been an associate ever since.

One day, she recalled, "It suddenly just dawned on me: 'Hey! I'm not contributing anything, and [the sisters] do all these wonderful things and this takes money!'" At that point, Yolanda became a monthly supporter with an automatic, recurring credit card donation.

From time to time she has increased her monthly donations as the way has opened for her to do so. "I first thought, well, I can start with this, and we'll see how it goes," she said. "I just didn't want to back off, I wanted to go forward. And that's what I did."

Yolanda's most recent endeavor has been to raise money for the sisters' ministries at the Kyembogo Holy Cross Health Centre in Kirinda, Uganda. With the support of the Holy Cross Associates and several other parish ministries, she has collected more than $1,600 to date. "The sisters are so sweet, they never ask for anything," she added. "It was time for someone to stand up and say, 'Look! We need to support what they do!'"

The sisters are truly grateful for Yolanda, and for every person who supports their ministry in any way.

continued from the previous page

Sharing the legacy

Only a few medals remain in existence; the Center of Military History provided 15 to the Congregation. To commemorate the sisters' legacy of compassionate caring and excellence in education, it was decided to share the additional medals with hospitals founded by the sisters following the Civil War, as well as with Saint Mary's College and other organizations connected with the Congregation. In addition to presenting a medal to the Sisters of the Holy Cross, Mr. Parsons of Rep. Walorski's office also presented medals to the following honorary recipients:

Trinity Health System, Livonia, Michigan
Saint Mary's College Department of Nursing Science, Notre Dame, Indiana
Holy Cross Hospital, Silver Spring, Maryland
Holy Cross Ministries, Salt Lake City, Utah
Mount Carmel Health, Columbus, Ohio
Providence Holy Cross Medical Center, Mission Hills, California
Saint Agnes Medical Center, Fresno, California
Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, Boise, Idaho
St. Vincent Anderson Regional Hospital, Anderson, Indiana
Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, Mishawaka, Indiana
Mound City National Cemetery Preservation Commission, Mound City, Illinois
The History Museum, South Bend, Indiana

The following Sisters of the Holy Cross were in attendance at the ceremony and were acknowledged for their military service prior to their entrance in the Congregation: Sister M. Gertrude Anne (Otis), CSC, U.S. Navy; Sister Julie McGuire, CSC, U.S. Air Force; and Sister Mary Marjorie Packer, CSC, U.S. Navy.

Standing on the shoulders of earlier archivists

Sister Catherine Osimo, CSC, director of Congregational Archives and Records, researched, developed, coordinated and presided over the program for the presentation of the U.S. Army Civil War Campaign Medal. "I am grateful for the assistance, support and presence of the entire Archives staff: Cindy Hamill; Sisters Grace Shonk, Joanne Becker and M. Timothea (Kingston); and volunteer Shirley Pressnell. They added a wonderful spirit of hospitality which made all feel welcome to our community celebration," Sister Catherine said.

She also acknowledged the dedication and work of Congregational archivists before her who contributed to the research and availability of information on the sisters' service in the Civil War.

Sister Mary Mulligan, CSC, gratefully receives a heartfelt donation to the Congregation's Ministry With the Poor Fund from her 8-year-old relative, Sierra Rose Bayze, as Sierra's younger brother Lucien Michael looks on.

Unexpected delight | A gift from the heart

By Sister Mary Mulligan, CSC, and Jacki Bayze

Sometimes the unexpected happens, and in this case, it was a gift straight from the heart of an 8-year-old girl, Sierra Rose Bayze. Sierra's school had been learning about Africa and exploring ways to support those in need there.

Sierra's family wanted to find a charitable organization that she would be interested in and that would also show her where and how her money was being used. Not too long afterward, a visit from a relative—Sister Mary Mulligan, CSC—provided the solution to their search. (Sister Mary is an aunt of Jacki Bayze's father-in-law; Jacki is Sierra's mother.)

Sister Mary mentioned that she served on a committee for the Sisters of the Holy Cross Ministry With the Poor Fund, and that donations are dispersed to Holy Cross sisters for projects that directly assist the materially poor, the powerless and those living on the fringes of society. Sierra's family found the assurance they were looking for: They knew exactly where their donations would go and who would benefit from them.

Later that night, when Sierra heard some of the ways donations could help, she promptly emptied her coin jars labeled "donate" and "save." Sierra was a little shy when she handed Sister Mary the plastic zipper-lock bag filled with coins, and Sister Mary was totally surprised and overwhelmed at her generosity. The amount of the young girl's donation? $67.63.

When Sierra received a thank you card from Holy Cross Sister M. Rose Edward (Goodrow), CSC, director of Development for the Congregation, she wasn't quite sure why her donation was noteworthy. But after learning that her heartfelt gift was helping children at Moreau Primary School in Kirinda, Uganda, get an education, Sierra was overjoyed. She's even talking with her family about donating again to Ministry With the Poor.

Donors can be confident that the money is being used efficiently to reach people in need, and that the ministry is accomplished with faith, love and respect. When giving to the Ministry With the Poor Fund, you become a co-minister with the Sisters of the Holy Cross. To learn more, visit http://www.cscsisters.org/ministries/Pages/Ministry-With-the-Poor.aspx.

Sister Jamuna Magdeline Gomes, CSC, gathers with some of her students on sports day at Moreau Holy Cross School in Bhadun, Bangladesh.

Donations help educate in Bangladesh

> "A coeducational system ... helps the students to respect one another and will help eradicate gender discrimination."
>
> — Sister Jamuna Magdeline Gomes, CSC

"We do believe our teaching will help to bring a change in our lives and society." These are the words of Sister Jamuna Magdeline Gomes, CSC, headmistress of the Moreau Holy Cross School in Bhadun, Bangladesh. This primary school for girls and boys opened in January 2015 and is experiencing great success. Enrollment is growing, and plans are being realized to expand the number of grades the school will offer.

This year Moreau Holy Cross School will receive Ministry With the Poor funds to help pay teacher salaries, and for the expenses of parent meetings and an educational tour for the students. Government funding will pay for books, and a grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters is providing furniture and equipment.

What's most important, said Sister Jamuna, is that "students are having regular classes [that include teaching of] moral values. A coeducational system in a Muslim country helps the students to respect one another and will help eradicate gender discrimination. We also are creating different opportunities to develop leadership, talents and skills."

Three branches of Holy Cross

Celebrating our 175th anniversary in Africa

by Sister Scholastica Elizabeth Ampadu, CSC

Holy Cross Founder Basil Anthony Moreau must have been smiling in heaven as his daughters came together in September to celebrate our history and our oneness. Sisters of Holy Cross, Marianites of Holy Cross and Sisters of the Holy Cross all gathered in Burkina Faso, Africa, in a joyful celebration of the 175th anniversary of the founding of the women of Holy Cross.

Sister Lilian Briege Awino, CSC, and I accepted an invitation from the Sisters of Holy Cross to visit them in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Our trip from Ghana, West Africa—made by bus, motorcycle and car—was long and tiring. However, it was a joy to see all three branches of Holy Cross women together, celebrating as one family. Our internationality was so visible with sisters from Ghana, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Mali, Canada and France. Yet, we also were just Holy Cross sisters, showing our unity in diversity. It was the first time most of the younger sisters had met members of the other women's congregations.

The three branches of Holy Cross women gathered for a special Mass and reception at St. Guillaume de Tanghin parish. Prayers were said for every Holy Cross woman in the world and for future generations. The parishioners joined us for lunch in the parish hall. Afterward we went to the convent for another social gathering. We had time to visit with one another and entertained ourselves with songs.

Looking back on the journey, I have feelings of gratitude and appreciation for this wonderful experience of family spirit. Members of the three branches of Holy Cross women together celebrated our birth 175 years ago. We were no longer three, but one large family living in different parts of the world. I had a feeling that Blessed Basil Moreau was very happy. May this unity be experienced again one day, in my time or in the lives of those who will come after me.

Sister Scholastica Elizabeth Ampadu, CSC, teaches midwifery at the Nursing and Midwifery Training College, Sekondi, Western Region, Ghana.

Sisters Scholastica Elizabeth Ampadu (second from left) and Sister Lilian Briege Awino (second from right) were invited by the Sisters of Holy Cross to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, Africa, for a special celebration of the 175th anniversary of the founding of the women of Holy Cross.

Willing Hearts

The Congregation is blessed with a loving, caring corps of volunteers who regularly visit and accompany the sisters at Saint Mary's in a variety of ways. Lately, four volunteers have taken on a special activity: They are helping sisters navigate "Willing Hearts: Sisters of the Holy Cross, Civil War Nurses," a new app that tells the story of the sisters' ministry of caring for sick and wounded soldiers on both sides of the conflict (www.cscsisters.org/aboutus/media/releases/pages/WillingHeartsApp.aspx). One of those volunteers, Daniel Flowers, graciously shared his experience—and his willing heart—as he reflected on the time he spent exploring the app with Sister Anna Mae Golden, CSC.

Our volunteers share their time and talent with sisters

***inSPIRIT*:** What prompted you to volunteer to share the "Willing Hearts" app with the sisters?

DANIEL: When Lee Ann Moore (director of Activities and Volunteer Services) brought this opportunity to my attention, I was excited to share the experience and learn, alongside sisters, more about the incredible service the Sisters of the Holy Cross provided to so many during the Civil War. My knowledge was limited on this topic, and I knew it would be a wonderful chance to learn and reflect with sisters in an engaging app that weaves together original photographs, letters and other source documents that make the experience come to life!

i: What has the experience been like for you, sharing the sisters' Civil War nursing history with Sister Anna Mae?

D: The experience has been a true pleasure. Going into it, Lee Ann and I thought we might be able to walk through the app in two, one-hour sessions, but the discussion was so rich with Sister Anna Mae that it took us five or six hours to really get the full experience. There is so much content that brings to life the story of the sisters' service during the Civil War, and it was very special for me to share it with Sister Anna Mae, who had such wonderful reflections and knowledge of the topic. It was certainly emotional as the stories of the tragedy really hit you, and you realize the magnitude of the pain that war brought to so many. The sisters were there to walk with those hit hardest by the war and bring them comfort, sometimes in their last moments on Earth.

i: How has Sister Anna Mae responded to "Willing Hearts"?

D: Sister Anna Mae was always excited about digging into the app and learning more, including seeing many photos and original letters for the first time. I think she shared my sense of awe in what the sisters accomplished with so little during the war and, yet, they were able to impact many lives in a positive way during the most difficult of times. It was a joy for me to see the excitement and smile on Sister Anna Mae's face.

i: What have you learned about the sisters' history through the app?

D: Most of all, "Willing Hearts" makes clear the sisters' love for God in responding to the needs of the time wherever they may be and, in this case, during perhaps the most difficult period in the nation's history. It demonstrates the impact of their love for others in the words of thanks expressed by so many. It is hard to imagine how difficult this would have been—physically, emotionally and spiritually—but the sisters served throughout the war, meeting the needs of injured and dying solders. The app references the monument in Washington, D.C., "Nuns of the Battlefield," which pays tribute to the more than 600 sisters (from many religious communities) who served during the Civil War. The inscription on this monument captures the essence of their service beautifully: "They comforted the dying, they nursed the wounded, carried hope to the imprisoned, gave in His name a drink of water to the thirsty."

i: Is there anything else you'd like to say about this experience?

D: I would like to add my thanks to those sisters who served the country during the war. It means so much to be able to share "Willing Hearts" with the sisters and continue to keep the history of this incredible story alive.

Daniel R. Flowers has been a volunteer at Saint Mary's Convent since 2008. He is director of Institutional Research at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana. Sister Anna Mae Golden, CSC, serves in the ministry of prayer, praying for the needs of our community, our benefactors and the world.

Learn more about the "Willing Hearts" app at http://www.willingheartsapp.com/index.html.
Ten percent of gross proceeds from the sale of the app will benefit ministries of the Congregation.

Daniel Flowers engages in conversation with Sister Anna Mae Golden, CSC, about the Congregation's nursing service during the U.S. Civil War. Daniel is one of several volunteers at Saint Mary's Convent helping sisters navigate "Willing Hearts: Sisters of the Holy Cross, Civil War Nurses," a new app that tells the story of the sisters' ministry of caring for sick and wounded soldiers on both sides of the conflict.

Table of Contents Zoom in Zoom out Zoom in Zoom out Table of Contents

Ministry With the Poor funding helps families in Peru

Sister hears “the Gospel shouting”

While her official job title is advisor to the family catechetical program in a parish in Lima, Peru, Holy Cross Sister Noylí Margot Ríos Manzo’s ministry taps deep into the needs of the entire community she serves. In her role, she helps 17 couples plan and carry out the program, which guides children and their families in their faith formation. But she also counsels families, helping them to reconcile and work through the reality of their daily lives in light of the teachings of the Church.

For some families, areas of conflict and confusion center around family violence, child suicide, and drugs and alcohol. Sister Noylí helps couples and their family members through classes and activities that teach nonviolence, and that strengthen and promote right relationships. These families, she says, “have been for me the Gospel shouting. As the Gospel of Matthew says, ‘I tell you that as you did it to one of these my brothers (and sisters), even to the little ones, you did it to me.’”

As a Sister of the Holy Cross and a psychologist, Sister Noylí navigates these rough familial waters on a daily basis, drawing on her compassion and her own religious formation. She uses Ministry With the Poor funding for the catechism program that benefits the impoverished families of the parish in many ways. For example, in 2015 Sister Noylí spent time interviewing 105 children, many of whom live in violent, chaotic environments. Then, through the catechism program, she helped shepherd those children and their families through the preparation to receive the sacraments of baptism and first Communion. The Gospel is shouting indeed!

Sister Noylí Margot Ríos Manzo, CSC, celebrates first Communion day with one of the students in the family catechetical program in Lima, Peru.

Gifted connection

Donation brings families together to pray for healing

Shelly and Mike Flinn, with their son Isaiah when he was 21 months old, enjoy a sunny day together near their home in Florida. Isaiah lives with a congenital heart defect that, as he grows, will require him to have a heart valve replacement every few years. According to the Children’s Heart Foundation, congenital heart defects (CHDs) are the most prevalent type of birth defect in the United States and all other countries—affecting approximately one in 100 newborns each year—and are the most common cause of birth defect related infant deaths.

Photo courtesy of Paul Lijewski

The box that arrived in the Sisters of the Holy Cross Stamp Room in the spring of 2015 carried more than its obvious contents.

Inside were cancelled stamps—a donation to the Congregation’s stamp ministry—and a camera. Stamps often arrive with other gifts, and it was assumed that the camera also was donated to help support the Ministry With the Poor Fund.

But just as the items were headed out for sale, an urgent phone call came in from Irmy Flinn of South Carolina, looking for her lost camera. She and her husband John had recently returned home from visiting family, and she suspected the camera may have been set down on the partially closed stamp box while they were unloading. The camera, she went on to explain, held treasured photos of her grandson, Isaiah, who had been born in January with a congenital heart defect called tetralogy of Fallot with pulmonary atresia and ventricular septal defect. Isaiah had miraculously survived complications from heart surgery just days after his birth, she explained, but still required additional surgeries, procedures, therapies and delicate, daily care.

The sisters found the camera and returned it, and through the conversations that followed, the Flinn family and the sisters developed a lasting friendship. The sisters and staff prayed faithfully, and continue to pray for Isaiah and his family. Irmy and John still donate to the Congregation and regularly check in on the sisters. They also send word of Isaiah’s health, upcoming procedures and his progress. His parents, Mike and Shelly Flinn of Florida, say Isaiah will need continued heart valve replacements as he grows, but despite his difficulties, “he is a joyful and delightful boy who loves music and dancing, going to Mass (especially the music) and playing outside.”

Though Isaiah faces a long road ahead, say his parents, they move forward in faith and hope. They “lean on the cross of Christ, first and foremost,” they said, as well as the support, prayers and petitions of family and friends, including their new “family” of Holy Cross sisters and staff.

Grant helps parish youth ministry in Nuevo León, Mexico

Music, sweet music

Sister Patricia Anne Clossey, CSC, right, and Julieta Gaitan, choir director at La Luz Parish in Guadalupe, Nuevo León, Mexico, shop for guitars for a parish youth music program. Thanks to a grant from the Donald D. Lynch Family Foundation, La Luz Parish bought guitars for teachers and students, instruments and sound equipment to enhance performances, and Bibles for a youth spiritual formation program.

La Luz Parish in Guadalupe, Nuevo León, Mexico, has a long history with the Sisters of the Holy Cross. Many sisters have ministered in this large, economically diverse urban parish for decades, and they know well the needs of the parishioners. Recently, the parish youth expressed a keen interest in music, but there were no resources available to help them.

Sister Patricia Anne Clossey, CSC, a pastoral associate in the areas of social service and spirituality at the parish, shared this story of extraordinary need—and extraordinary opportunity—to support the faith of these young people through the gift of music.

It was in 2015 when the youth, particularly the young men, began to express their desire to understand and play music. One 15-year-old named Leonardo, who goes by Leo, began to learn the guitar, thanks to a fellow parishioner who let Leo use his instrument when they were together. But Leo did not have a guitar on which to regularly practice. He also had stated that he wanted to study to be a priest. Other teens expressed similar interest in music and in spiritual matters.

The parish earnestly wanted to take advantage of the young people's interest and enthusiasm, but there was no money to buy guitars for lessons and practice.

The need for funds came to the attention of the Congregation's Development Office, and an application was made to the Donald D. Lynch Family Foundation, which subsequently determined the project fit their criteria for support. With the grant from the Lynch Family Foundation, La Luz Parish bought guitars for teachers and students, instruments and sound equipment to enhance performances, and Bibles for their spiritual formation program. In addition, a secure, central storage area was built that would both protect the instruments and make them available for use within the parish.

The La Luz community is tremendously grateful for this gift of music and spiritual resources. "We are very excited about the grant, and what it can do for the parish and for the faith life of the young people," said Sister Patricia.

GRANT THEM PEACE

These Sisters of the Holy Cross were called home to God since the last issue of *inSpirit*. While we feel their loss, we rejoice in their newfound lives. To read more about them or to make a memorial contribution, please visit http://bit.ly/1KKpogN.

Sister Geraldine Liquore, CSC
(Sister M. Nathaniel)
October 23, 1926 – February 26, 2017
Entered from Somerville, Massachusetts
Initial profession on February 2, 1953

Sister Geraldine Liquore died at Saint Mary's Convent where she recently observed her 67th anniversary since entering the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 1950. When she received the holy habit in 1951, she became known as Sister Nathaniel. Even though she later returned to her baptismal name of Geraldine, she is remembered for her namesake, Nathaniel, whom Jesus found "without guile" (John 1:47). A peer recalls her being "always inclined to mother, especially if she sensed any distress." Though she hailed from the Boston area, Sister Geraldine taught mostly in Catholic elementary schools in Austin, Texas; Abington, Pennsylvania; Flint, Michigan; New York City, New York; Washington, D.C.; and Alexandria, Virginia. Sister Geraldine had professional degrees and certifications, not only in education, but also in accounting; school guidance and counseling; and nursing as a licensed practical nurse (LPN). These other areas of expertise took her to Boston and Bedford, Massachusetts, and Rockville, Maryland. In 1985, she returned to the classroom in Somerville, Massachusetts, where she could be closer to an ailing sibling. Sister's own poor health brought her to Saint Mary's Convent in 2008.

Sister Mary Marjorie Packer, CSC
(Sister Mary Vera)
May 11, 1921 – March 2, 2017
Entered from Columbus, Ohio
Initial profession on August 15, 1952

There is an extra line carved onto Sister Marjorie's marker in Our Lady of Peace Cemetery at Saint Mary's identifying her as a veteran of the U.S. Navy. After her honorable discharge in 1946 the former Yeoman First Class attended Mount Carmel School of Nursing in her native Columbus, Ohio, to prepare for medical mission work in hopes of eventually entering a religious order. At Mount Carmel, she met the Sisters of the Holy Cross and entered the Congregation in 1949. Sister Marjorie never nursed overseas, but she did serve stateside in health care facilities sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Cross as a nurse and in areas of medical records, management and assistance to administrators in Columbus, Ohio; Salt Lake City, Utah; Boise, Idaho; and Salinas, California. She was an able administrator in several positions at Saint Mary's and served on many hospital boards. With her coordination of information resources and online databases beginning in 1991, Saint Mary's entered the digital age. However, Sister Marjorie was not a "computer nerd." Yes, she had top-secret clearance with the Navy during her enlistment, but she was also tops as a friend and support in community.

Sister Nancy Ganse, CSC
(Sister M. Georgellen)
February 1, 1928 – March 9, 2017
Entered from Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Initial profession on August 15, 1948

Sister Nancy Ganse died unexpectedly in Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, Mishawaka, Indiana, though she had been in poor health since her move to Saint Mary's Convent, Notre Dame, Indiana, in 2015. Sister Nancy entered the Sisters of the Holy Cross from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on her 18th birthday in 1946, having been employed in a payroll department operating a Comptometer, the original calculator. However, she did not spend her 71 years as a sister working in a back office. She started as a teacher in elementary and secondary education in Catholic schools in Washington, D.C.; Norfolk, Virginia; Austin, Texas; and Kensington, Maryland. With bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry, Sister Nancy accepted a position to teach at Mount Carmel School of Nursing, Columbus, Ohio, in 1966. She spent the rest of her 28 years in Columbus in managerial or administrative roles at Mount Carmel Medical Center and Mount Carmel East Hospital. She also served on the Mount Carmel College of Nursing Board of Trustees. Sister Nancy's last assignment was in Tompkinsville, Kentucky, coordinating a community outreach program for the Appalachian poor for more than eight years. She then retired to Saint Angela Hall, Kensington, Maryland, and later to Saint Mary's Convent. Her second cousins in Holy Cross are Sister M. Joanella (Bennawit), deceased, and Sister Mary Ada (Dennis).

Table of Contents Zoom in Zoom out
Zoom in Zoom out Table of Contents

Photos courtesy of Lawrence Opolot

Celebrating 50 years

The Sisters of the Holy Cross rejoiced and gave thanks for their past and present ministries and their future work with the people of Uganda, during a jubilee celebration marking the 50th anniversary of the Congregation's presence in the East Africa nation.

Holy Cross priests and brothers and area residents joined the sisters for the January 21 event, which was commemorated with a musical procession and a Mass, celebrated by Father Tom Smith, CSC, at Virika Cathedral of Our Lady of Snows, in Fort Portal, Kabarole.

"The celebration was all about the dedication and commitment of the Sisters of the Holy Cross to the people of Uganda," said Sister Stella Maris Kunihira, CSC. "It was a day to thank God for our founding sisters and Father Vincent McCauley, CSC, who inspired them to come to Uganda. We are proud of them and promise to commit ourselves to serve and offer our best for the glory of God!"

Holy Cross Sisters Sharlet Ann Wagner, of the Congregation's General Leadership Team, and Mary Louise Wahler, country coordinator for Uganda, and Bishop Robert Muhiirwa, CSC, of the Diocese of Fort Portal, were among those who presented remarks for the occasion.

"It was Father Moreau's dream that Holy Cross grow like a vine spreading worldwide and bearing much fruit," said Candidate Catherine Magoba, who attended the events. "I see the sisters growing more branches and not only working with care, but also with great hope."

Clockwise from top left:
Sister Mary Louise Wahler, CSC, country coordinator for Uganda, welcomes those gathered to celebrate the Sisters of the Holy Cross' 50th anniversary of ministry in Uganda. In the background is the jubilee banner, designed and constructed by Sister Eileen Dewsnup, CSC.

Forefront left to right, Holy Cross Sisters Esther Adjoa Entsiwah, Area of Africa coordinator, Evelyn Ntiamoah, and Margaret Mary Nimo, and background left to right, Holy Cross Sisters Rose Kyomukama, and Lillian Sullivan, keep step in a musical procession on the way to Mass.

From left, Candidate Irene Musuya Musyoka and an aspirant from Kenya participate in Mass at Virika Cathedral of Our Lady of Snows in Fort Portal.

Holy Cross Sisters Mary Alice Bowler, left, and Eileen Dewsnup share a conversation during the day's festivities.

Sister Martha Nambi, CSC, directs the choir in songs of praise for the jubilee celebration.

- - - - - Tear out at perforation - - - - -

CIRCLE OF SAINTS

September 15 is the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, a Congregational feast day when we celebrate the Holy Cross women who have gone before us. As we remember them in prayer and thanksgiving, we invite you to remember deceased relatives and friends who have paved the way for your life. Send their names to the Development Office and we will include them in our Circle of Saints.

Mail this form to the address at the bottom of the page or email your list to development@cscsisters.org with the subject: Circle of Saints.

Names must be received by September 5.

Tell us your CONTACT PREFERENCES

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ ZIP _____

Preferred telephone _____

Birth date _____

Email _____

☐ My donations are Anonymous. Do not list my name.

☐ I have named the "Sisters of the Holy Cross, Inc.," in my will.

inSpirit magazine is available in print and on the website.

☐ Please mail to me once a year (fall appeal only, no magazine).

☐ Send me the print edition of *inSpirit* magazine.

☐ Notify me by email when *inSpirit* is available on the website.
Be sure to add development@cscsisters.org to your contact list.

☐ Please take me off your mailing list.

Mail to: Sisters of the Holy Cross, Development Office–Saint Mary's, 407 Bertrand Hall, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556-5000; (574) 284-5641

MOREAU GARDEN

Gardens are a space for reflection, gratitude and connection with our loved ones. Each person named in the Moreau Garden Book of Remembrance is remembered in the daily prayers of our novices and sisters. Add your name or the name of someone you love by sending the form below and a minimum donation of $200.

Print name as it should appear in the book on the line below **(up to 42 characters and spaces).**

_____

This gift is: ☐ in honor ☐ in memory

Send a Garden Remembrance Card to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Donor Information:

Sign card from _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Daytime telephone _____

Method of Payment - Moreau Garden

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of $200 or more for each listing (up to 42 characters and spaces). Amount $ _____

Check payable to: Sisters of the Holy Cross

Credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

_____

Name on the credit card (please print)

_____

Signature for credit card

RECURRING GIFTS

Streamline your donations to the Sisters of the Holy Cross. Make automatic, secure gifts by credit card. You tell us which fund you want to give to, how much, and the details of your credit card. On the 15th of each month we make the charge for you. Your credit card number is encrypted and secure. Along with our thanks, we will send you a detailed receipt for your records. You can opt out at any time.

To get started, complete the form and mail to the Development Office or go to www.cscsisters.org and click on "Donate Now." Choose "Sign up for automatic monthly donations." (Please do not send credit card information by email. It is not secure and we will not be able to accept it.)

Statement of Authorization:
I authorize the Sisters of the Holy Cross to initiate recurring credit card transactions as indicated. I understand that a record of each gift will be included on my monthly credit card statement. I may change or cancel this recurring payment at any time by notifying the Sisters of the Holy Cross in writing by the 15th of the month in order to alter the next month's transaction. I agree to abide by all terms and conditions of my credit card agreement.

Donor Information:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ ZIP _____

Daytime telephone _____

Email address _____

Monthly gift amount: $ _____

Credit card:
☐ Visa
☐ MasterCard
☐ Discover
☐ American Express

I would like my gift to benefit:
☐ Ministry With the Poor
☐ Retirement Needs
☐ Unrestricted
☐ Other

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

_____

Name on the credit card (please print)

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail to: Sisters of the Holy Cross, Development Office–Saint Mary's, 407 Bertrand Hall, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556-5000; (574) 284-5641

----- Tear out at perforation -----

Building a society of justice and love

Investments help shape a safer garment industry

by Sister Florence Deacon, OSF
Congregation justice coordinator

One way the Sisters of the Holy Cross build a society of justice and love is by using the Congregation's investments to influence companies to treat workers justly and produce goods sustainably. Following the fourth anniversary of the 2013 collapse of the Rana Plaza garment factory in Savar, Bangladesh —in which more than 1,100 people were killed and thousands more were injured—much has been accomplished to ensure worker safety, but more work needs to be done.

In the aftermath of the tragedy, the Sisters of the Holy Cross joined other members of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) to use their investments as a catalyst for a safe and healthy Bangladeshi ready-made garment industry. As a result of such pressure, companies and trade unions signed and implemented a five-year, legally-binding Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh to both protect and empower garment workers.

The Congregation's General Leadership Team recently signed ICCR's "Investor Statement on the 4th Anniversary of the Rana Plaza Tragedy" (view the statement at www.iccr.org). The statement highlights major successes, including:

- Over 200 global brands and retailers have collaborated to address threats to worker safety.
- 1,600 factories have been inspected and 75 percent of the identified safety issues have been fixed.
- Over 750,000 workers have received training under the Accord's Safety Committee Program.

However, the investors noted in the statement that there are still serious structural issues in some garment factories, as well as "arbitrary arrests of union leaders by the Bangladesh police" following wage strikes in December 2016. "These actions raise serious questions for investors about the will and capacity of the government to implement their laws related to freedom of association and collective bargaining, to adopt a regular wage review mechanism and to oversee the restructuring of the garment sector to protect the health and welfare of workers," the statement reads.

With only one year left in the five-year agreement, the investors recommended that the Accord be extended to allow continued remediation of systemic issues that still threaten worker safety and livelihood.

LEFT: The collapsed Rana Plaza building in Savar, Bangladesh, 2013. RIGHT: Sister Shilpi Rozario, CSC, comforts a patient hospitalized from injuries sustained in the 2013 building collapse.

Sisters of the Holy Cross
100 Lourdes Hall – Saint Mary's
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556-5014

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S.Postage
PAID
Notre Dame, IN
Permit No. 29

Book shares messages of gratitude

Recently, Jan Cervelli, president of Saint Mary's College, delivered a special Book of Gratitude to Sister M. Veronique (Wiedower), CSC, and the Congregation to help celebrate the 175th anniversary of the women of Holy Cross. The book, created by Saint Mary's College faculty, staff and students, included notes and messages expressing gratitude for the sisters' ministry over the years, particularly at the college. Over 150 sisters and members of the college community packed the Lillie O'Grady Center, Saint Mary's, Notre Dame, Indiana, as the college community showed its appreciation for the work of the sisters.

Several students and graduates of Saint Mary's College shared their stories of how the Sisters of the Holy Cross had influenced their lives at the college and what it meant to them.

In her remarks, Sister Veronique, herself an alumna, said that Saint Mary's gave her three things: an excellent education, good Christian values and relationships she would always cherish.

Left to right, Judy Fean, vice president for Mission, Saint Mary's College; Jan Cervelli, president, Saint Mary's College; and Sister M. Veronique (Wiedower), CSC, Congregation president, show the Book of Gratitude created by Saint Mary's College faculty, staff and students.

Left to right, Saint Mary's College students Emma Lewis, Mary Joy Dingler, Emma McCarthy, Liza Felix and Maggie Carswell were on hand for the presentation of the Book of Gratitude.