



CONGRÉGATION DE NOTRE-DAME

Blessed Sacrament Province
Mission Advancement Office

Éducation libératrice - Liberating Education
真の自由への教育 - *Educación liberadora*

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Christmas Blessings 2013



Dear Friend of the CND,

Of all the gifts we have received, the one most prized is the gift of God to us in his Son, Jesus. This gift is given out of God's abundant love for us; there are no strings attached.

You have brought this love of Jesus for all people to so many children, women and men through your generosity to the CND.

Our retired and infirmed Sisters are also the recipients of your generosity and once again we come to you asking that you continue this generosity.

You may be aware of the publicity that Religious Sisters have received as a result of the investigation by the Vatican. You have read about the history of Sisters who brought schools and universities, hospitals, social services agencies, etc. to the far reaches of the US. And you also know that many sacrifices were made by these women and this was all done at minimal cost, leaving little for the Sisters to use for their own needs for the present and into the future.

You know that this fact continues. As we age, the costs for care keep rising.

We have made a commitment to each other in the CND that we will provide the best possible care for our aging Sisters. You have read about the two facilities where our retired and infirmed Sisters live: Andrus-on-Hudson and Lourdes Health Care Center.

All of the insurance options that are available to us are used but still the cost of caring for our Sisters is beyond what is covered.

Your generosity will help us toward filling the gap between what is received from our insurance and the actual cost. With your help, we hope to raise \$30,000 this Christmas!

It is always a joy to feature one of our Sisters:

**Sister Marie Elaine Lachance, CND
celebrated her 100th birthday on August 28th!**

The party was held at Andrus; many Sisters came as well as residents. The local TV station sent a videographer and interviewer, and a local newspaper also sent an interviewer!



Sr. Marie Elaine was well able to answer all their questions about her life which began in St. Thecla, Quebec. The interviewers were amazed at her knowledge of the Yankees; she has been a fan since the 1940's. Sister watches every game and as she said "I pray for all my boys". She also received signed baseballs as gifts! During the party, Yankee hats, T-shirts, bags, etc. were raffled off so all had a chance to win. Special events like these are only possible because of your generosity.

Sister Marie Elaine's ministry was to provide for the needs of the Sisters and children who boarded at Villa Maria Academy and Notre Dame Academy, Staten Island, NY. Sister provided many moments of tender, loving care especially to the children, some of whom were far from home. Sister read widely and shared her wisdom with many Sisters over these many years.

You make a tremendous difference in the lives of our Sisters.
It is our hope that you will enable us to continue to provide for our Sisters.

Know that you are in our thoughts and prayers as we give thanks for each of you.

Merry Christmas and many Blessings for the New Year, 2014!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Murphy, CND

Kathleen Murphy, CND
Mission Advancement Director



Singing Happy Birthday to Sr. Marie Elaine

