

Partners in Mission



CONGRÉGATION DE
NOTRE-DAME

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

The Newsletter for Supporters of Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame | Vol. 15 No. 1 Spring 2015

“Women Have a Richness That Makes a Parish Come Alive...”

*Women are a growing presence in parish leadership.
Read these stories from three CND Sisters:*



The Feminine Spirit in Parish Ministry
Sr. Sally Norcross, CND

Making a difference in parish ministry with your help

It has been two and a half years since I began my pastoral ministry at St. Matthew Parish in Norwalk, CT. I had served in schools as a teacher and administrator for over 40 years. What a change for me when I left my comfort zone in education! I faced my new ministry with some trepidation, but the Lord called me and I knew He would guide me.

The rewards of pastoral ministry far outweigh the challenges. Sharing and living in the Gospel, walking

with the sick and elderly through their suffering and losses, reaching out to the poor, the bereaved and abandoned, and ministering in a warm and welcoming parish are truly blessings that have enriched my life.

As a pastoral assistant, I have been encouraged to oversee all aspects of our outreach programs. That means I am the “go to” person when someone is in need. Visiting our sick and elderly is a priority. Our pastoral team brings Eucharist to 30 to 40 shut-ins each week. I also manage the food pantry and hot meals program; coordinate the list of families who receive food baskets

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Parish Shawl Ministry – A Hug from God

Behind the Scenes with Sr. Julia Lydon, CND – Giving back to others because of you

Our Lady of Loretto Parish is located in Hometown, IL, a suburb of Chicago that was “created” after WWII, when Ford built a plant nearby and many GI’s were looking for work. It was a young and vibrant community. They took great pride in their parish. Now most parishioners are seniors, several over 90 years old. With so many elderly, Prayer Shawl Ministry is

a natural activity for us. We make and take shawls and, more often, lap rugs to seniors, especially those who are ill, house-bound, or hurting in other ways. We also regularly donate to two Veteran’s homes, one in Chicago and one in Kankakee, IL. And, at the nurses’ request, we will be crafting tiny shawls for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn, IL.



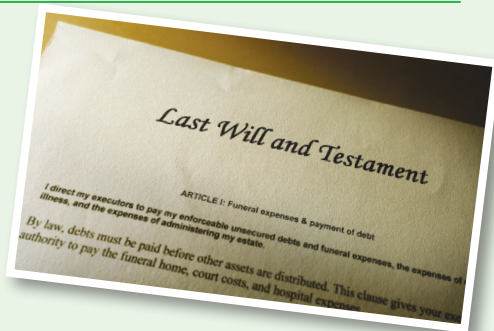
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See page 2 for a pie chart of your donations...

Following Jesus. Serving the poor.

How Will You Be Remembered?

Leaving a gift in your will to the Congregation of Notre Dame helps us continue to serve in parishes and also in schools, hospitals, at the United Nations and in all the places where we minister to and advocate for the poor, sick, elderly and oppressed. We will always remember you for your kindness. To find out how easy it is to leave a legacy gift, email us at cnddev@juno.com or call 203-762-4306.



What's Up With the CNDs?

Donate Online

Visit www.cnd-m.org: click on *Works and Ministries*, then *Office of Mission Advancement*, then *Have You Thought about Giving*

CNDs on Facebook

Check out our Facebook page at Congregation of Notre Dame/USA

Enrollment Cards

Order our cards at www.cnd-m.org: click *Works and Ministries*, then *Office of Mission Advancement*, then *A Card for Every Occasion*

CND Associates

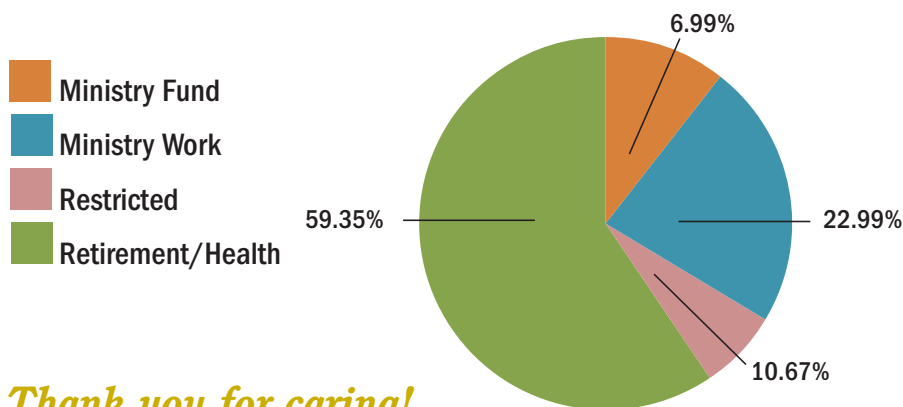
Join the 100+ CND Associates, who are lay men and women, by contacting Sr. Joan Mahoney, CND, at cndassociatesusa@msn.com or 203-762-4305

Stamps

Please keep sending us your cancelled stamps, which benefit our missions in Central America and Cameroon

*Thank you
for your support!*

Current Fiscal Year Pie Chart



Thank you for caring!

Prayer Shawl Ministry...

(continued from front page)

Our group of eight members meets every month. Our expertise varies. A few of us are excellent, and produce three beautiful items monthly. Others do very good work. I am the weak link in the group, contributing about three finished items a year.

Our chair person, Jackie, presides: leading the prayer, unpacking the yarn supply, and holding up each item for our appreciation. She, with her son, who took us on as his

Confirmation project three years ago, prepare the shawls and rugs for delivery. Each offering is packaged very attractively.

A great stimulus to our ministry came from Fr. Tom Cabala, our pastor. Father now gives each family whose child is baptized at St. Loretto a baby blanket from our group. We receive many touching thank you notes from these young families.

We are very grateful for the funds you send to keep our wonderful ministry growing!

Comforting the sick. Because of you.

The Many Hats of a Pastoral Associate

Thanks to you, Sr. Regina DeVitto, CND, wears many hats at St. Gregory the Great parish on the north side of Chicago.

As a Pastoral Associate I am involved in a little bit of everything. My primary focus is coordinating our Saturday School of Religion program, consisting of 75 children from ages five to 15. When I first arrived at the parish two years ago, we had about 55 children. Each year our enrollment has increased. For many of the children, English is their second language, with Spanish or Tagalog spoken at home. Recently, on the Feast of All Saints, the



Sr. Regina, CND, as Pope Gregory the Great, along with a bird symbolizing the Holy Spirit. Thank you for your support of our sisters in parish ministry!

children were visited by some important figures, including Gregory the Great and our own foundress Marguerite Bourgeoys!

Special to St. Gregory's is its promotion of faith through the arts. We have an iconographer in residence and a musician in residence who is a member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Through their efforts many people have found a spiritual home with us. I am blessed to serve as one of our cantors and to conduct regular Taize prayer services with my guitar in the presence of magnificent icons.

St. Gregory's is more than a place where I minister – it is home. Magnificat!

1964 was a very good year...



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY CLASS OF 1964 REUNION

FRONT ROW L-R: Ann Rainone Boulet, Frances Trouve Keating, Rita Bastien Geoffroy, Linda D'Iorio DeCiccio, Carol Nachajski Misenor, Linda Scartabello Lolli

BACK ROW L-R: Gloria Natale Mancuso, Catherine Pearl Clavet, Elaine Sweet Irby, Catherine Sousa Fabrizio, Janet Tortalano DeLuca, Kathleen Laffey, Joanne Andreozzi D'Amore, Dr. Barbara Integlia, Margaret Mahoney Lurgio

50 years later they remember their CND teachers...

For all you do, thank you.

Visitation Companions – a program of monthly giving

Join those who give monthly in support of our ministries and the health and retirement needs of our Sisters. You'll receive special recognition in our Honor Roll and earn our prayerful gratitude. To sign up, simply email cnddev@juno.com or call 203-762-4306.

In Memorial

Mary Joyce, CND

(Mother St. Mark of Rome)

d. November 19, 2014

*Please pray for her soul and all
the souls of the faithful departed.*

Mission Advancement News

Katherine DiGiulio, CFRE, joined the CND Office of Mission Advancement as Director in January 2015. Katherine plans to visit as many CND friends and board members as she can in the next few months. We are most thankful for the efforts of Sr. Kathleen Murphy, CND, who retired from the position after nearly eight years of raising the profile of the department and creating many friendships with our generous supporters. (Of course our Sisters never truly retire.) Sr. Kathleen applauds the generosity of our donors and will continue to stay in touch.



Sr. Kathleen Murphy, CND, Vicki Remson, Mission Advancement Assistant, and Katherine DiGiulio, CFRE, Mission Advancement Director.

Women Have a Richness...

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at Thanksgiving; and arrange for toys, gifts, and food to be delivered at Christmas and Easter.

Since I have a counseling background, some of my time is spent working with individuals who are having difficulties. I walk with individuals when they are sick, and I support individuals after they have lost a loved one. What a gift it is to comfort, nurture and minister to God's people. I am with them in their joys and sorrows, their hopes and fears, and their successes and losses.

St. Matthew Parish is very active. Celebrations abound and workshops and meetings are many. Somehow I find myself involved in every event, and, truthfully, it is all good. I know I bring a "feminine spirit" to all our activities.

Women are a growing presence in parish leadership, and women have a richness that makes a parish come alive. The Church is greatly enhanced by the increasing number of women in pastoral ministry!

Mission Orientation of the Congregation of Notre Dame

To follow Jesus in a preferential option for the poor and to live our mission of liberating education in fidelity to the prophetic charism of Marguerite Bourgeoys in today's world, we commit ourselves to live closer to the reality of the impoverished, the excluded and the oppressed. In solidarity with them, we commit ourselves to protect our planet and to participate actively in the transformation of Church and society for a more just world. (Mission Orientation, Chapters 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011 with additions)



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