

Partners in CND Mission



CONGRÉGATION DE
NOTRE-DAME

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The Newsletter for Supporters of the Sisters of the Congregation de Notre Dame | Vol. 22 No. 1 Spring 2022

Your Generosity Supports an Adventurous Soul

“Go. I will not abandon you.” Our Blessed Mother spoke those words to Marguerite Bourgeoys as she set off for Canada (New France) in 1653. Sr. Eileen Good, CND has prayed those words before beginning any of the many ministries of her career. Sr. Eileen has served in North America, Central America, and Cameroon. Presently she works as the finance director at St. Jean Baptiste High School, a CND school in New York City.

Originally from Bronx, NY, Sr. Eileen entered the Congregation de Notre Dame in 1966. Although her college major was mathematics, she has ministered mainly in social services, including 25 years in Providence, RI with the chronically mentally ill and the addicted. She has taught ESL, worked with trafficked women and served in a homeless shelter.

“I have never felt abandoned. I am here because St. Marguerite and God guided me to a vocation in religious life.”

Sr. Eileen belongs to Nuns and Nones, a national organization of lay people and religious sisters. The lay people, searching for a deeper meaning in life, believe that religious women embody a more profound understanding of the world because of their spirituality and their quest for social justice.

In turn, the Sisters believe that the lay people “have something we need. We don’t know what form religious life will take,” Sr. Eileen says. “Nuns and Nones gives me hope that our commitment will always remain alive.”

Sr. Eileen is also inspired by the students at St. Jean Baptiste. “Many of our students have very little, but they are rich in caring for each other. I have learned so much from them, witnessing that they share what they have.”

“I have never felt abandoned,” Sr. Eileen says. “I am here because St. Marguerite and God guided me to a vocation in religious life. I’m here because I need to be here for my life.”

Your generosity helps sustain the Sisters who serve in our CND ministries. Thank you!



Sr. Eileen Good, CND and “Jeanites,”
St. Jean Baptiste High School, NYC



Have You Included the CNDs In Your Will? Become a Legacy Society Member!

Through a gift in your will, you can make a big difference in the lives of CND Sisters and those they serve. If you already have a will, a simple phone call is all it takes to add the Sisters. Just use this sentence with your financial planner:

I bequeath ___ % of my estate or \$___ to the Congregation de Notre Dame, Blessed Sacrament Province, Inc.*, 3135 Easton Turnpike, Fairfield, CT 06825.

To learn more, email missionadvancement@cnd-m.org or call the Mission Advancement Office at 203-365-4306.



*Our legal name

Legacy Society Lapel Pin

Following Jesus. Serving the poor.

Seeing the Beauty in All People – Thanks to You



Sr. Bea Baker, CND, West Haven, CT

Sr. Bea Baker, CND says what makes her happy and gives her the most energy is helping people. Whether in Guatemala with subsistence farmers, in East Harlem with Mexican mothers, or in Joliet, IL with incarcerated men and women, Sr. Bea says, “You receive more than you give. You see the beauty in all the people you’re encountering.”

Originally from Illinois, Sr. Bea professed her final vows as a CND in 1971. She presently lives in Saint John XXIII parish in West Haven, CT. During the height of the Covid 19 pandemic, when interactions with people were limited, Sr. Bea walked and took pictures as a way to stay positive. Even though the pandemic has eased up, she still drives the short distance to Long Island Sound every day and photographs the beauty of God’s creation.

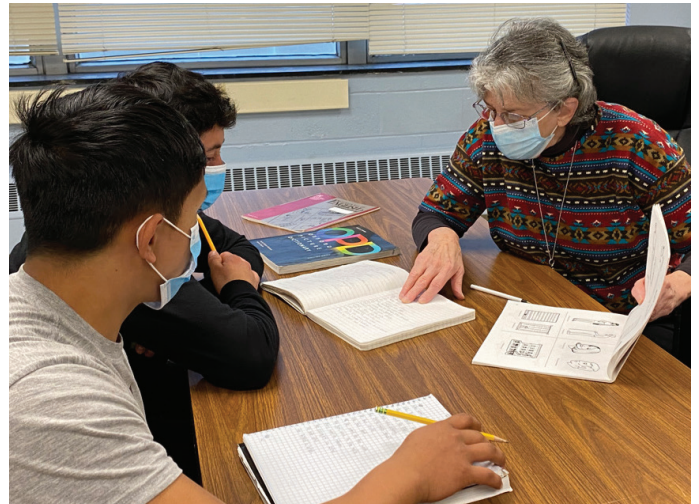
Now that parish ministries have resumed, Sr. Bea, who is bilingual, is tutoring three young men who are recent immigrants from South America. She is also beginning a ministry to help newly-arrived Afghan women adapt to living in the U.S.

Sr. Bea takes her inspiration from

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys. “Marguerite did whatever needed doing. I’m comfortable working with marginalized people and people in need and that’s who Marguerite chose to work with.”

Sr. Bea says the CNDs are blessed to have the Visitation as their feast day. “It encompasses everything we do. We meet Christ in everyone and hopefully they meet Christ in us. Finding the beauty in each person is a great, great gift.”

“My life is so enriched being a Sister of the Congregation de Notre Dame. All the marvelous gifts of spirituality, education, mission, ministry and community – those are the rich rewards of being a member of the Congregation.”



Sr. Bea Baker, CND and Students

Your generosity helps support our retired Sisters who work part-time or volunteer. Many, many thanks!

Why We Give to the CNDs *-by Associate Barbara McGrattan and Her Husband, Ron Guggisberg*

Ron and I are donors to the Congregation de Notre Dame for many reasons. First, religious Sisters as a whole live out the spirit of Vatican II more than anybody else. They are in the trenches with everyday people in their struggles and joys in life.

Second, we have living examples of faith-filled Sisters who have blessed us. Some years back, Sr. Kathleen Deignan, CND gave a mission in our parish in North Carolina. That’s how I found out about the CND Associates, which I joined and led as a coordinator for six years. Sr. Terry Martin, CND, who served in the Diocese of Charlotte, trained the first group of North Carolina Associates. Then Sr. Margarita Castañeda, CND became Director of Religious Education. Sr. Margarita is bilingual and helped get the Spanish-speaking folks involved in our parish.

Third, these ladies left us with a mission to use our talents to “Do Justice, Love Mercy, and Walk Humbly with Our God” as Micah 6:8 tells us. Ron and I take that to heart.



Comforting the sick. Because of you.

Through Your Generous Giving CND Associates Give to Others

-by Maria Cabello-Vazquez, Associate Co-Coordinator, Blessed Sacrament Province



CND Associates are taking on service projects throughout 2022, the 40th anniversary of the CND Associate Relationship. "We are all invited to complete three individual actions and one action with our local Associate group. *Together for the life of the world, may we be Transforming Love – written in every heart.*"

West Haven, CT Associates Jan Fournier (left) and Judi Finkle (right) and a friend (middle) make blankets in support of Sr. Patricia McCarthy's ministry with the homeless in Waterbury, CT.

PLEASE NOTE: The last name of Associate Deborah McManus was misspelled in our Fall Newsletter.

Current Fiscal Year Donations

Thank you for your kind and generous support!



- 2021-22 Annual Appeal
- 2021 Christmas Card Appeal
- 2021 Fall Newsletter
- Honor/Memorial; Unsolicited
- Major Gifts
- Visitation Companions

Thank you, Visitation Companions! Your Monthly Gifts Help Sustain Us!

Your reliable monthly gifts enable our Sisters to minister to the least fortunate among us. They also support the needs of our elderly and ailing Sisters.

Become a Visitation Companion! Monthly giving is simple, convenient, and easy on your budget. **TO SIGN UP**, email missionadvancement@cnd-m.org or call 203-365-4306. OR **click on the monthly gift option** at www.cnd-m.org/ USA Office of Mission Advancement.

Visitation Companions are recognized in our Honor Roll and on our website.

Many, many thanks!

For all you do, thank you.

Please join us in praying for our deceased Sisters.

M. Jenny Ricci, CND
d. October 20, 2021

Eileen Kelly, CND
(S. St. Sean of Mary)
d. November 7, 2021

Dolores McKinney, CND
(S. St. Charles Maura)
d. January 18, 2022

Rose Mary Sullivan, CND
(S. St. Kevin of the Cross)
d. January 20, 2022

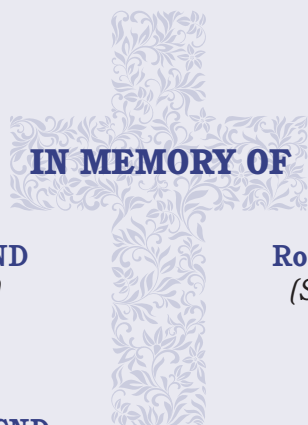
Rosemary Cianciolo, CND
(S. St. Elaine Marie)
d. March 21, 2022

Anne Walsh, CND
(S. St. Mary Brendan)
d. March 29, 2022

All I have ever desired is that the great precept of the love of God above all things and of the neighbor as oneself be written in every heart.

- St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



IN MEMORY OF

Ways to Help the CNDs

Donate Online

www.cnd-m.org/

USA Office of Mission Advancement

Follow the CNDs on Facebook

Congregation de Notre Dame/USA

Order Our Prayer Enrollment Cards

www.cnd-m.org/ USA Office of Mission Advancement; Prayer Enrollment Cards

Keep Sending Your Canceled Stamps

They must be actual stamps and have at least ¼" of envelope around all four sides of the stamps.

Check Out Our Website

www.cnd-m.org/ USA Office of Mission Advancement

Follow Us on Instagram

#cndsistersusa

Your Annual Appeal Gifts Benefit All Our Sisters

Please Make Your Gift before June 30, 2022!*

Your gifts to the 2021-2022 Annual Appeal sustain our

- Retired Sisters as they continue to serve God's people through volunteer ministries and through prayer. *Think of Sr. Kay Powers, CND. Her story was featured in our current Annual Appeal letter.*
- Sisters who receive little or no pay as they share Christ's love with the poor and vulnerable.

Please donate before the end of our fiscal year, June 30, 2022. Send your gift in the enclosed envelope **or** visit www.cnd-m.org, USA Office of Mission Advancement.

You Can Endow Your Annual Appeal Gift!

By making a bequest in your will you can create an Annual Appeal gift that lasts indefinitely. For instance, a \$20,000 bequest can generate a \$1,000 Annual Appeal gift that is in place forever! **To learn more, contact the Mission Advancement Office at (203) 365-4306.**

We hold you and your loved ones in prayer every day. **THANK YOU for your generous support!**

**Our Annual Appeal runs from July 1st to June 30th.*



*Sr. Kay Powers, CND
(S. St. Kathleen Margaret)*



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