

LOS ANGELES PROVINCE

# DESIGNS

SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH OF CARONDELET AND FRIENDS

SPRING 2017

Jubilee

Ministry

In Joy  
We  
ENTER  
THE  
JOURNEY!

Journey

# Ministry

# Journey

Spring 2017- Vol. 34 No. 1

Editor  
Meyling Eliash-Daneshfar  
Designer  
Carol Louise Smith, CSJ  
Proofreaders  
Sister Teresa Avalos, CSJ  
Sister Cathy Bundon, CSJ  
Sister Caroline Chang, CSJ  
Sister Imelda D'Agostino, CSJ  
Sister Therese Denham, CSJ  
Sister Maureen Doherty, CSJ  
Sister Joan Hagen, CSJ  
Sister Dennis Mary McFadden, CSJ  
Sister Patricia Rose Shanahan, CSJ

**DESIGNS** is a publication of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in the Los Angeles Province; it is published three times a year. All material submitted is subject to review, revision, and editing. Unsolicited material may not exceed 300 words. Send all articles to:

**Meyling Eliash-Daneshfar**  
Carondelet Center  
11999 Chalon Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90049  
meyling@csjla.org  
www.csjla.org

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### CONTRIBUTORS

Meyling Eliash-Daneshfar, Editor  
Ashley Guanzon, SJWorker  
Denise Ginty, CSJ Associate  
Sister Mary Schneider, CSJ  
Sister Diane Smith, CSJ  
Sisters Colleen & Kathleen Harris, CSJs

### PHOTO CREDITS

Sister Patricia Rose Shanahan, CSJ  
Meyling Eliash-Daneshfar  
Sister Carol L Smith, CSJ

## From the Leadership Team

Dear Sisters, Associates, 'Ohana, and Friends,  
For us, jubilee is a time of great joy and gratitude for gifts received and lives lived well in the spirit of St. Joseph.

This year we honor 2,545 years of vowed religious life and 400 years of committed relationship with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. Imagine, 2,275 years of service to achieve unity of neighbor with neighbor and neighbor with God. We are so proud of our Sisters and Associates who are celebrated in this issue of DESIGNS. Their commitments to the community and the *dear neighbor* are inspiring and energizing to all of us.

In the month of March, we celebrate Joseph. Undoubtedly, how he lived, the choices he made, how he thought, influenced the way the human Jesus came to regard life. Joseph never could have known the extent to which his life would influence Jesus, whose life and mission in turn continues to this day and into eternity to be the guiding force in the lives of untold numbers of persons. Although we may never know the influence of our lives and labor on the lives of others, it may be beneficial for us, especially at Jubilee time to look back with gratitude on our own lives to see where we have made a difference.

As the poet Mary Oliver says,

“Love still as once you loved, deeply  
And without patience.  
Let God and the world  
Know you are grateful.  
That the gift has been given.”

May our ever gracious God continue to bless us with the justice, humility, and steadfast love of our patron Joseph

Lovingly,

Sisters Angela Faustina, Mary Ann Martin, Sandra Williams,  
Suzanne Jabro and Theresa Kvale, CSJs



Angela Faustina, CSJ



Mary Ann Martin, CSJ



Sandra Williams, CSJ



Suzanne Jabro, CSJ



Theresa Kvale, CSJ

# Advancing the Mission

## Ministering With Us

When we ask you for assistance, whether money, time or resources, we invite you to join us in advancing the mission of Jesus. You share our excitement about what we do as stewards of God's creation. In other words, you minister with us and together we continue our mission.

Your generosity permits us to support the efforts of many community-based organizations including *Healing Well* in San Francisco, which is dedicated to fighting poverty, prejudice, mental illness, substance abuse and promoting justice as well as teaching yoga, poetry and offering housing and job training. We also support efforts to give hope and dignity to people in prison, including their children who, thanks to programs such as *Get on The Bus*, can visit their parents in prison or even attend a summer camp where they can interact with their parents.

Thanks to you, our Sisters and Associates even in retirement continue to invest in humankind. They give their time, they support worthy causes financially. They foster justice and protection of God's creation through non-violence coalitions and prayer. This issue of *DESIGNS* is an example of the vast work of the Sisters and Associates some of whom have ministered for over seventy-five years!

During this year, we are inviting you to join us in fundraising so that we may purchase a new air conditioning system for our chapel and a new elevator for our aging facilities. Both purchases will help us continue to provide good care to our



Meyling Eliash-Daneshfar,  
Director of Communications,  
Public Relations, and Mission  
Advancement

Sisters and to enhance accessibility and comfort especially in our chapel and elsewhere in the building. You may submit your donations at <http://csjla.org/support-us/>.

We thank you in advance for your support today and in the future. ➡

~ Written by Meyling Eliash-Daneshfar,  
Director of Communications, PR and Mission Advancement

## DESIGNS

is a free publication. Share it with your friends and family who might want to join our mailing list. ➡



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Relationship to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet  
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## Mission Statement

The Sisters of St Joseph of Carondelet hold as their mission to continue the mission of Jesus "that all may be one."

~ John 17:21

The members of the congregation minister in a way that:

- \* Heals and reconciles
- \* Serves all persons without distinction
- \* Makes known through their lives the Gospel they proclaim
- \* Enables others to assume a more active responsibility for continuing the mission of Jesus
- \* Recognizes and defends the human dignity of all persons
- \* Promotes justice with a particular concern for the poor.

~ Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Constitution, #20

### Charism

The Spirit and Charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet is unifying love. ➡

# Jubilee 2017!

Anyone who spends twenty-five years committed to something might be called dedicated. Anyone who spends seventy-five years doing something could be described as called. That is precisely what our jubilarians are: dedicated, steadfast, loyal, faithful ... called. They responded to a call of prayer, service and ministry to those living on the margins of society.

They became visionary leaders and counter-cultural individuals who "got things done." They elevated people's spirits and raised their voices through education, nursing care and social services.

Even those who are retired have remained committed to their call. Most of all, they remain jubilant about their life choices. Thanks to each of our Jubilarians! ❖



Sister Mary Dominic Chacon, CSJ

## 75 Years

### Sister Mary Dominic Chacon, CSJ

Sister takes pride in having remained faithful to her vows and having responded to the challenges of life. For thirty years Sister prepared meals in hospitals, parishes and high school convents in the Los Angeles Province. During these years, she became very aware of needy persons. A turning point in her ministry came in 1975. "We visited a sick, alcoholic man who lived in a room so dirty I couldn't find a place to sit. He reached out, took my hand and whispered, "Thank you for coming. You are Jesus to me."

The impact of Sister's work could be summed up in the words of an editorial which epitomized her efforts and care: Sister founded St. Jude's Residence for Women in the Santa Clarita Valley where she welcomed, housed, fed and offered spiritual guidance to women who had been abused. ❖

## 70 Years

### Sister Margaret Lucille Barrett, CSJ

Sister served at elementary schools in CA including: St. Brigid, St. Lawrence, St. Vincent and St. Anthony. She also ministered at St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica. Her favorite ministry is at Villa Maria House of Prayer located just twenty-five miles east of downtown Los Angeles. It's a place of rest, refreshment and renewal where people feel nurtured and supported in peace and solitude. There, Sister Margaret Lucille meets persons who have impacted her life tremendously and whom she has enriched through her prayer. Sister shares her gift of music and



Sister Margaret Lucille Barrett, CSJ

song in a choir that has performed at Carnegie Hall. They have also sung in Rome as part of a European tour. She treasures her life in community. ❖

### Sister Patricia Joyce Crother, CSJ

Sister taught at several schools in Arizona, California and Hawaii where she held positions as teacher, assistant principal, principal, and administrator. One of her proudest accomplishments was to manage a successful fundraiser for two years for tuition assistance in poor Hawaii Catholic Schools. She also ministered at a boarding school where she dealt with many needy students and made life long friends. Sister Patricia is grateful to now have quiet time to thank God for many blessings and to be able to pray and do what she can to make her world a little better. ❖

### Sister Patricia Haire, CSJ

For twenty-two years, Sister ministered in elementary education. For several years, she served in parish ministry and then followed a desire to earn a Doctoral Degree in Forensic Psychology. This degree opened doors to help the poor and needy through human justice and the court system. Fifteen years ago, Sister joined the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department as a chaplain. One of Sister Patricia's fondest memories is having joined four CSJs as founders of our Congregational Mission Project in Gulu, Uganda. "That was truly my life's dream! I believe that I am the same person in 2017 as I was when I said, 'Yes' to God in 1946." Today, I am better at trusting in God's call. I do try to make new paths and leave trails of hope and confidence for others to follow." ❖

### Sister Roseagnes Haskins, CSJ

One of Sister's most rewarding ministries was working with homebound seniors through the Older Adult Service and Intervention System (OASIS) of Catholic Charities in Santa Barbara, CA. Sister Roseagnes holds a Masters degree in Library Sciences and after many years in the school system, she served in several senior caregiving programs. She especially remembers one woman who taught her to accept situations and trust in God

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Sister Patricia Crother, CSJ



Sister Patricia Haire, CSJ



Sister Roseagnes Haskins, CSJ

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Sister Madeline Clancy, CSJ



Sister Patricia Overlock, CSJ



Sister Dennis Mary McFadden, CSJ



Sister Eileen Parker, CSJ

no matter what. Her favorite expression was, "What is, is." For Sister, some of her most precious memories are from the times she spent with the class of 1966 at the Academy of Our Lady of Peace in San Diego. On their graduation day, "They sat me on the stage and gave me an empty basket. They then filled it with roses, each dropping hers in the basket while singing "Rose, Rose, I love You" by Frankie Laine." ➔

### Sister Dennis Mary McFadden, CSJ

Sister Dennis Mary is a native Californian who ministered in schools as a teacher, principal, director of development, assistant librarian and work with the deaf. Sister has always loved her Irish heritage and has been a fan of Notre Dame football, forever. It is not uncommon to find her sporting her Notre Dame sweatshirt with great pride. Now retired, Sister recognizes that teaching social studies to high school students was her favorite ministry. From each of the schools in which she taught, she has continued many long-lasting friendships of students and colleagues. She has a gift for remaining in contact with others. Sister is truly a historian. Her love of history is matched by her love of reading—especially historical novels. Love of community and dedication have been a hallmark of her life. ➔

### Sister Eileen Parker, CSJ

Sister Eileen's fifth grade teacher at St. Jerome's in Chicago suggested she be a "Sister." It was fifteen plus years before it became a reality. As a commissioned officer in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, USMC, she began to realize there was "more" to life than USMC and resigned her commission. Shortly, thereafter, she was received into community as a CSJ. She is an avid reader— newspapers, magazines and thrillers. She says, "I am experiencing gratitude, peace and joy with my long-ago request to be accepted for membership in the CSJ community. Even with my many foibles, I've been given graces that enabled me to serve others in ways that have benefitted them." A favorite saying is: "The Lord always takes care of me." "I believe He has and trust He always will." ➔

### Sister Ruth Anne Saunders, CSJ

Sister taught grade school for many years and was an excellent teacher who was loved by her students and fellow staff members. Her enthusiasm for life brought tangible energy to the classroom and the faculty room. However, Sister's favorite ministry was serving as Pastoral Associate because of the many friends she made in the parishes. Sister Ruth Anne utilized her teaching skills to prepare hospice volunteers for grief work through a hospice program. Her fondest memories are of the many people she has met during her more than seventy years as a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet. "Sharing and listening to those in need allows me to live our charism by providing love and care to my neighbors." ➔

### Sister Mary Ellen Sprouffske, CSJ

Sister began her active ministry as a grade school teacher. She also spent a number of years teaching at the Academy of Our Lady of Peace and Mount St. Mary's University. She remembers, with great fondness, her days as a board member of the Desert Refugee Peace Officers and Military Personnel. The program serves peace officers, military personnel and their families, who are affected by Traumatic Stress Disorders and need a place of respite. Sister lent her artistic skills to many projects around Carondelet Center, including creating a magnificent quilt in commemoration of the 300-year anniversary of our Congregation. Sister also helped build, with Sister Patricia Callahan, CSJ, the replica of the log cabin where the first Sisters lived outside St. Louis, MO both pieces are displayed at Carondelet Center. ➔

### Sister Doris Villeneuve, CSJ

Sister was born in Syracuse, NY and made vows in the Albany Province of the Sisters of St Joseph. She transferred to the Los Angeles Province in 1988. She remembers her early days in Syracuse racing on ice with her close-knit family. "My mother, Elizabeth, loved me so much." Sister received so much love that she was able to give it all back to those in need in a gracious and grateful manner. She taught math and physics in high schools



Sister Ruth Anne Saunders, CSJ



Sister Mary Ellen Sprouffske, CSJ



Sister Catherine Irene Findley, CSJ



Sister Doris Villeneuve, CSJ

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Sister Dolores Anchondo, CSJ

and also served as assistant principal and treasurer in various schools in New York State as well as in California. She has brought joy to the Sisters with whom she has lived and to the students she taught. She believes that one should not judge others and always prays for more peace in our world. ➡

## 60 Years

### Sister Dolores Anchondo, CSJ

Sister ministered as Principal at the Academy of Our Lady of Peace (OLP) in San Diego for thirty years. "Working with the staff, students and families was my greatest joy. I loved teaching Spanish and watching the student's sports activities. I loved seeing their growth over the years." Sister believes that her partnership with Sister Joyce Hampel, CSJ (RIP) who was the Associate Principal of the school, was such a treasure. We worked so well together and had so much fun at OLP." ➡

### Sister Joanna Bramble, CSJ

Sister is a native of Los Angeles, CA and with a Masters Degree in Social Change, she has always been in the forefront of social change. She is most proud of *Jubilee West*, a program she started with Sister Pat Sears, CSJ (RIP) that rehabilitated sixty-five units of housing and made it affordable to poverty level families in West Oakland, CA. It also provided other community services. Additionally, Sister Joanna treasures her memory of "walking with Cesar Chavez in Delano, CA and then driving to our convent in Fresno, CA." Sister lives our charism by her efforts to "make a whole" out of her "activist self" and her "contemplative self." ➡



Sister Joanna Bramble, CSJ

### Sister Judeth Breslin, CSJ

Sister spent many years as a teacher, educational therapist and caseworker. She holds a Masters In Education as well as a Massage Therapist Certification. She says, "I am most proud of my beginning realization of Jesus' 'Be ye perfect as your heavenly Father.' 'God is Love,' so rather than trying to fix self and others, I need to slow down and be present in this one moment." During a Juniorate retreat, she was meditating at a place overlooking the hills and "was moved by all the plants and animals in their



Sister Judeth Breslin, CSJ

existence giving praise and glory to God their creator. To this day, they call me to do the same." Now semi-retired, Sister lives by our community's call to respond to the groaning of a disconnected world. ➡

### Sister Patricia Callahan, CSJ

Sister lives the charism of the CSJs by negotiating cooperation. This is evident in her long career as a Math and Physics teacher in different high schools in California including St. Joseph's, Bishop Montgomery, the Academy of Our Lady of Peace and St. Mary's Academy, among others. She also had a long career in the senior services arena at Stella Maris Center, (Los Angeles) and Buenaventura Interfaith Caregivers and Joseph Program for Seniors, both in Ventura, CA. There, she served as Director of Senior Center Services and found her most rewarding years of service. Sister is an artist with wood and has enjoyed camping and the outdoor life. Now retired, Sister Patricia takes great pride in the success achieved by her former students and the joy she shares with other Sisters as well as her family. ➡

### Sister Mona Castelazo, CSJ

Gifted writer, Sister taught English to students at all grade levels. She also taught at Mount St. Mary's University where she was known for her witty sense of humor and kind demeanor. Her favorite ministry is "delivering insights, from in-depth writers through teaching and writings." Sister Mona is proud of having compiled her own insights into, "Under the Sky Flower Tree", a memoir told with candor and humor, which she published in 2005 - "and conning people into buying it," she adds. When asked how she lives the charism of the CSJs she responds "by attempting to reconcile myself and others to the realities of life through humor." Sister Mona continues to write for our various province publications while maintaining the Library at Carondelet Center "with a dash of fol-de-rol." ➡

### Sister Kristin Cholewa, CSJ

"I am most proud of my work teaching Junior High students, offering creative teaching workshops and facilitating adult

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Sister Pat Callahan, CSJ

# Journey



Sister Mona Castelazo, CSJ



Sister Kristin Cholewa, CSJ

# Ministry

# Journey



Sister Margaret Jude Corey, CSJ

education and adult renewal days," says Sister Kristin. Born in Chicago, Sister entered Community from Mount St Mary's University in 1956. The number eight is her favorite number "because there were six CSJs and two priests who especially loved me, challenged me and called me to be more whole." Today, Sister remains involved in a variety of prison ministries—among them ministering to prisoners on death row. She remembers, that during her college years at the Mount, Sister Mary Laurentia Digges, CSJ (RIP) told her, "You will always make it because you bounce well, and bounce I have--often." Today, Sister lives at Carondelet Center where she enjoys helping to develop the liturgies celebrated there and extending hospitality to all who visit. ➡

### Sister Margaret Jude Corey, CSJ

Sister lives by proudly carrying on the tradition of being "all of which woman is capable" which was evidenced during her twenty years of teaching at St. Mary's Academy and twenty-two years at St. Joseph's High School. Innumerable students have been exposed to the mysteries and beauty of math through her instruction. "I was touched by my years of working with Sister Dennis Anne Cremins, CSJ (RIP) at Bishop Montgomery High School and St. Joseph High School in the early 80s." A native Chicagoan, Sister Margaret Jude treasures her memories of her 50th Jubilee at St. Joseph High School where she celebrated with her many friends. Taking one day at a time, being grateful every time she rises in the morning and expressing gratitude for her friends, are some things she holds dear. ➡

### Sister Elaine Coutu, CSJ

With ministries in Arizona, California, Idaho, Minnesota, Missouri, and Washington States, Sister Elaine has used her gifts to serve God, the people of God, and the Congregation with love and dedication. She believes that a "prophet is called to be faithful not to be successful" which she applied in her ministries by being present to those who live on the margins of society. Her favorite ministry was as a social worker at Booth Memorial Home in Los Angeles, CA. Booth is a residential program for adolescents who

are pregnant and/or teen parents. "My ministry there helped provide an environment in which the clients were loved and cared for." Sister hopes to continue to use her gifts as energy and health allow her to respond to the needs of those around her. ➡

### Sister Imelda D'Agostino, CSJ

Sister Imelda was born in Los Angeles, CA and holds a Ph.D. and an MA in Early Education from the University of Southern California. She has taught all grade levels from preschool to university and absolutely loved all her ministries. "I am most proud of my former students and their accomplishments. I have been touched by persons who have helped me appreciate God's creation—the sky, the beach, the backyard." Sister treasures "many memories, especially my sabbatical experience in South Carolina, where my creativity had an opportunity to blossom. I continue to live by our charism in my weekly time-sharing of God's love with preschoolers at St. Cyril School, Encino, CA, in volunteering with the homebound seniors and local community. I enjoy my large family of over one hundred nieces, nephews, grands, and great-grands." ➡

### Sister Kathleen Lamia, CSJ

Sister Kathleen was born in Ocean Park, CA and taught at various schools in Los Angeles and in the San Fernando Valley, CA. She is most proud of her accomplishments as a first and second grade teacher. Eventually, Sister began ministering in the health field serving as a nurse assistant at Lourdes Health Network in Pasco, WA. She also ministered in the Pediatrics and Pastoral Departments at Daniel Freeman Hospital. She says, "My most rewarding ministry was at Harbor General Hospital in Los Angeles where I served as a patient visitor. I was able to use the Spanish I knew to communicate and pray with the Spanish-speaking patients. One of her most treasured memories is of her trip to the Lourdes Sanctuary in France with Sister Mary Murphy. ➡



Sister Imelda D'Agostino, CSJ

# Ministry



Sister Kathleen Lamia, CSJ

Sister Elaine Coutu, CSJ

Sister Juanita Mary Meyer, CSJ

# Ministry



Sister Juanita Mary Meyer, CSJ

## Sister Juanita Mary Meyer, CSJ

With a Masters Degree in Education from San Jose State University and in Christian Spirituality from Creighton University, NE. Sister Juanita Mary has an impressive list of ministries in education and pastoral care. "My favorite ministry was teaching children, particularly classroom music, Glee Club and guitar groups." Sister lives the charism of the CSJs in her interactions "with all who come into my life." Sister was born in Cincinnati, OH, and attended school in California where Sister Helen Clare Fenton, CSJ (RIP) particularly touched her. She has spent most of her life in ministry in Arizona, California and Minnesota. ➦

## Sister Mary Murphy, CSJ

Sister Mary was born in San Francisco and entered community in 1956. She was inspired and touched by Sister Helen Clare Fenton, CSJ (RIP) "who was present in my life from early childhood through adulthood." Sister's favorite ministry was at Good Shepherd Center for Homeless in Los Angeles where she ministered with women along with Sister Julia Mary Farley, CSJ. One of Sister Mary's proudest accomplishments was when with Sister Alberta Cammack, CSJ (RIP) "we discovered the actual trek that seven Sisters took in 1870 by railroad, steamer and wagons across the American Desert from Missouri to Arizona." Since then, Sister Mary has led countless groups on "the Trek" and engaged them in a significant piece of community history. Sister currently serves at Villa Maria House of Prayer in La Habra, CA.



Sister Mary Murphy, CSJ

## Sister Margaret Mary Murray, CSJ

For Sister Margaret Murray, knowing and living in community with great women such as Mothers Killian Corbett, Rosaleen Lynch, CSJs (RIP) and Sister Mary Laurentine Falvey, CSJ (RIP) are among her most treasured memories. Sister lives our charism by being a reconciling presence in whatever situation she finds herself. For her, spiritual companioning is a way of life; she tries "to be a caring listener and a loving presence" in whatever setting she is. She has served as a teacher as well as a Parish Minister, Formation Director, Regional Superior and Spiritual Director. "I am grateful to God and our Community, for all the opportunities



Sister Margaret Mary Murray, CSJ

# Ministry



Sister Mary Agnes Nance, CSJ

being a CSJ has offered me over the years. I am grateful to be well enough to continue my ministry of Spiritual Direction and community support and involvement." ➦

## Sister Mary Agnes Nance, CSJ

Sister Mary Agnes began her ministry as a third grade teacher, which was her favorite ministry. "Eight year old children are pure delight and they love to learn! In my heart, I am a third grade teacher." One of her accomplishments that brought her joy was serving in the Communications Department in Carondelet Center. "I loved each of my thirteen years as Director of Communications working with wonderfully talented persons." Sister Mary Agnes fondly remembers living in the Great Northwest. "I loved living in the four seasons and ministering with warm, loving communities and parishes. Those fourteen years left a happy, indelible mark on me." Today, "I look back and realize that religious life is very different than it was sixty years ago. The changes have made for a rich life. I am blessed and grateful." ➦

## Sister Linda Nicholson, CSJ

The seed of Sister Linda Nicholson's vocation came from her sister, Sandy, who "got me started going to daily Mass before school." She was also encouraged by the Sisters who taught at Star of the Sea in San Francisco. "Mother Josephine Feeney, CSJ (RIP) urged me into the field of education and Sister Mary Brigid Fitzpatrick, CSJ called me to work in administration – a position that has challenged and nourished me for 38 years in five schools as well as the Office of Catholic Schools in San Bernardino, CA." Sister Linda is a native Californian and lives the charism by "working daily to be prayerful, peaceful and positive and doing my best to be a woman who serves God through the "dear neighbor". My greatest desire is to empower people in each mission—to recognize their gifts and to encourage them to further God's work." ➦

## Sister Kathleen O'Shea, CSJ

Sister Kathleen is a native San Franciscan and though she has ministered in Washington State and Southern California, she



Sister Linda Nicholson, CSJ



Sister Katie O'Shea, CSJ

# Ministry



Sister Judy Peters, CSJ

remains a San Franciscan. Currently she serves at the Healing Well in San Francisco where she ministers with homeless persons and people in recovery. She says, "I am so happy that I became a Sister of St Joseph. It has carried me forward and helped me grow and understand what life is about. Giving and receiving love and forgiveness is the essence of the Gospel message." This is what I am called to live. Her favorite words to pray are from the Prayer of Serenity — "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change." In 2017 Sister finds herself filled with hope and rooted in gratitude. ➡

### Sister Diane Smith, CSJ



Sister Diane Smith, CSJ

Sister Diane says "it is difficult to describe my favorite ministry. Being a Catechist and educator has been a lifelong ministry. God called me to minister with many cultures, refugees, and those whom society might consider throwaways." Sister is "proud of developing a gang prevention program. When she lived in South Central Los Angeles, she walked every morning and saw the potential in the children's faces, but knew that living in the gang-infested area, it would be difficult for them to live a productive life." That experience led Sister to develop Making the Right Connections to give children tools for survival as well as keep them productively engaged. After twenty-seven years, the program still is in operation. Sister continues to be involved in justice issues for the Congregation and is committed to the humane treatment of all people and the Earth. ➡

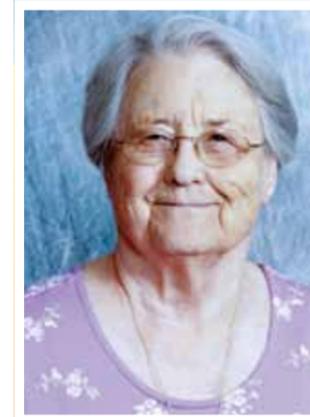
### Sister Barbara Anne Stowasser, CSJ



Sister Barbara Anne Stowasser, CSJ

Although she feels that she is "still becoming" who she is, "way older, a little wiser and much happier," Sister Barbara Anne lives the charism of our community by reflecting daily on the call of the Gospel and works toward having inclusive love come alive in her life and in the lives of those she touches. Sister was a teacher for many years in various schools in Arizona and California. She also held positions of leadership in the Province; now, semi-retired, she works in parish ministry. "I really cannot choose one favorite ministry. They all provided blessings, wonderful co-workers and enough challenges for growth. Together we made a difference."

# Journey



Sister Helen Vincent Oswald, CSJ

Sister is most proud of having said "yes" to God's call to be a CSJ and remains so today.

### Sister Helen Oswald, CSJ

Sister Helen is proud of having obtained her college degree in math and later a Masters Degree from the University of California. Sister taught math at several schools including Alemany High School, Mission Hills, CA; Salpointe, Tucson, AZ; Carondelet High School, Concord, CA; and Bishop Montgomery, Torrance, CA. She also served as Registrar at Mount St. Mary's University where she was responsible for the acquisition of their first computers. Later, she ministered as a chaplain and in hospitality at St. Joseph Hospital, Tucson, AZ, and Lourdes Health Network, Pasco, WA. Sister Helen, who was born in Bakersfield, CA believes that "God and friends are most important." Many people and boutiques have benefitted from Sister's talented hands—her handmade laces, afghans and several types of artwork. ➡

### 50 Years

### Sister Frances Watta, CSJ

Sister Frances was born in Long Beach, CA. With degrees in Education and Mathematics, she worked at St. John Chrysostom, Inglewood, CA; St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Encino, CA; St. Patrick, West Oakland, CA; Precious Blood, Banning, CA; and St. Joseph School, Kennewick, WA. "Teaching in elementary school is my favorite ministry. I am most proud of having been a full-time teacher for over forty years. Now I continue as a teacher aide at St. Joseph the Worker School, Winnetka, CA." Sister Frances treasures the delightful times and laughter she has shared with the sisters in community. She lives the CSJ Charism by showing love and kindness to those with whom she serves and works. ➡



Sister Virginia Stehly, CSJ

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Sister Frances Watta, CSJ

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Photos unavailable for

Vivian Burgess, CSJA

Jeanett Fruge, CSJA

Pauline Haas, CSJA

Jan Laughterjung, CSJA

Linda Lewis, CSJA

Martha McGowan, CSJA

Genevieve Taylor, CSJA

Journey



Fely Atay, CSJA



Mary Eden, CSJA

## Associates 25 Years

*As Sisters minister, they encounter special men and women who, inspired by the spirit of the CSJs, have become Associates. Associates are people who wish to advance the mission of Jesus by sharing and spreading the charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet—unifying love. This year's Associate Jubilarians and Ohanas (the Associates from Hawaii) represent the true spirit of the Associates as they walk with the Sisters ministering for a better world. ➔*

### Fely Atay, CSJ Ohana

Fely started a bereavement ministry with her husband, Donny, at their parish, Christ the King Church in Kahului, Maui, HI. In 1994, they opened a Food Pantry in an old Matson container. As the years went by, they were able to purchase a portable contractor's office trailer that is still standing on the church grounds benefitting the poor and the hungry. Fely served there for sixteen years. The Sisters of St. Joseph at Holy Rosary in Maui, Paia, HI schooled Fely. "The person I admired the most was a Sister who was our mentor for choir and taught us to sing Gregorian chant." Fely made her covenant in 1992 with the encouragement of Sister Agnes Arsenault. ➔

### Mary Eden, CSJA

Associate Mary Eden's favorite ministry was *The Gathering Place*, a drop in center for persons with HIV/AIDS, in South Central Los Angeles, a joint ministry founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in Los Angeles and Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, CA. Mary was the founding CEO and she treasures "having been able to work in the AIDS Ministry along with Sisters Caroline Chang and Roberta Nuttall, CSJs." Mary continues to support the ministries of the CSJs in Phoenix, AZ, where she has been able to continue keeping in touch with our Sisters. ➔

### Linda Lewis, CSJA

Linda Lewis is most proud of her "family, friends and association with grammar and high school teachers and classmates." She was touched by many CSJs, especially Sisters Joan of Arc,

Linda Snow and Serena Benedictine. Linda lives our charism by "following Sister Joan of Arc's example of openness to all." ➔

### Linda Martin, CSJA

"I am pleased that I can help the O'hana on Maui in getting information out to the members. We are a very small group but Linda helped Sister Roselani and the Maui CSJs in their 75th celebration of their beginnings on Maui at Holy Rosary Church. "It was a treasure to have all the Sisters gather with their former students to reminisce and a pleasure to help plan this memorable event." When asked how she lives our charism, Linda says, "The CSJs provide the inspiration to guide me 'to move always towards love of God and love of neighbor without distinction'. Hawaii is unique in its diversity." As for the future, "There is a new beginning evolving with the amalgamation process of the Hawaii Vice Province and the Los Angeles Province. The Associates/O'Hana are also developing into something new. It's hard to describe this anticipation, but I look forward as we move on to accommodate the new with the old." ➔

### Martha McGowan, CSJA

For ten years Martha served in prison ministry in San Diego. This was her favorite ministry. She also spent time as a VIA Services volunteer in Santa Clara and Oxnard, CA. VIA is a residential respite care with a weekend and week-long special needs camping program. She was touched by the faith, love and dedication of all the Sisters in Santa Clara and Oxnard. "Their acceptance and guidance touched me deeply. I love all the CSJs especially Sisters Sharon Margaret Ninteman, Estelle Kroger and many others." Martha lives the charism by "talking to Jesus each morning and offering him her joys and challenges as well as for strength and courage to recognize the needs of the 'dear neighbor' and doing my best to be a comfort to them." ➔

### Dianne Nelson, CSJA

For Dianne Nelson, working as a nurse for thirty-four years for the Department of Veterans Affairs and as our Director of Associates for eight years, are her favorite ministries. She is most



Linda Martin, CSJA



Carole Mohan, CSJA

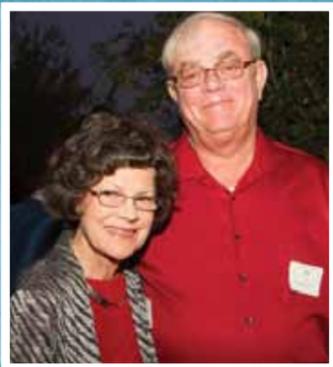


Maile M Nakamura, CSJA

Journey

SPRING

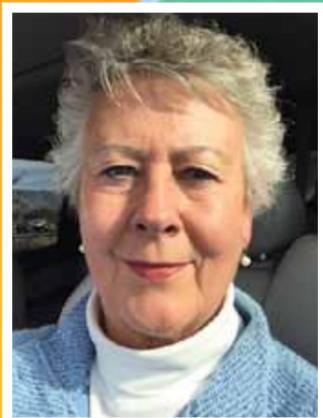
# Ministry



Dianne & Bill Nelson, CSJA



Janne Shirley, CSJA



Linda Stapleton, CSJA

# Journey

proud of "being the director of Associates, being the National President of the Nurses Organization of the VA and providing a gathering place for her large family on Thanksgiving, Easter and other celebrations." Diane is inspired every day by her husband Bill, who on Christmas Eve of 1970 "in my parents living room, proposed to me and gave me a diamond engagement ring." Dianne lives the charism by being the peacemaker in her family, giving hospitality, welcome and love and being generous with her time. As she steps down from her position as Director of Associates, Dianne is looking forward to mentoring the new director and spending more time reading and in prayer. ➡

### Bill Nelson, CSJA

Bill Nelson wanted to be a mechanical engineer since he was fourteen years old because "engineers use science to solve problems and build things." He is most proud of "growing a business by empowering creative architects and engineers to help others be successful." Associate Dianne, his wife of forty-five years who "lights up each day as she smiles every time she sees me," says Bill. For Bill, his most treasured memories are from the time their children were young and spent time together in the mountains during their camp-o-ree. After twenty-five years as an Associate, serving in ministry along with Dianne, Bill is "happy. Each day brings new joy. I continue to find great satisfaction from teaching." ➡

### Janne Shirley, CSJA

Janne Shirley spent thirty-two years in prison ministry and thirty-seven years helping hearing impaired children in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Father Greg Boyle inspires her because of "his tireless energy and vision working at Homeboy Industries." Homeboy Industries provides hope, training and support to formerly gang-involved and incarcerated persons giving them a chance to redirect their lives and become contributing members of our society. Janne lives the charism of our community by "holding those living on the margins and loving them unconditionally." She is a proud grandmother to four beautiful kids and continues to follow her passion working

with incarcerated youth and serving on Mount St. Mary's University Board. ➡

### Linda Stapleton, CSJA

Linda shares, "My favorite ministry was the thirty years I worked in the public sector and felt especially called to value the gifts and contributions of all employees and those with whom I came in contact. On weekends, visiting and taking Communion to the homebound was especially rewarding." She says that she "has been touched by many CSJs, but I must mention four: Sisters Constance Fitzgerald, Eileen Mitchell, Jeanette Van Vleck, (RIP) and Veronica Maloney (RIP)." A couple of years ago when she visited Sister Veronica, Linda asked Sister if she would give me her blessing. She took a deep breath (and one of her long sighs) and offered a beautiful prayer for me. I was deeply moved and knew that a very special and holy woman had blessed me and one who made a big difference in my life many years ago." Linda has been married to her husband, John for fifty years. "John and I have the privilege of sharing parenting responsibilities for our granddaughter with her father, our son. We are grateful that we are healthy and available to respond to this call. We view this as a very clear commitment that God is asking of us at this time of our lives." ➡

*For their generous contributions, their daily example of love and dedication to others, for the faithful and quiet ways they minister to all people whom they encounter on their path, we salute our jubilarians. May God bless them each and every day. ➡*

~ Written by Meyling Eliash-Daneshfar, Director of Communications, Public relations and Mission Advancement

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

These Jubilarian vignettes were written with input from each Jubilarian.

## Remembering...

### Our Sisters and Associates who have recently died



\*

Kathleen Corbett, CSJ  
November 27, 2016



\*

Margaret Robertson, CSJA  
December 12, 2016



\*

Eileen Mary Connors, CSJ  
December 16, 2016



\*

Mary Gregory Porterie, CSJ  
December 31, 2016



\*

Serena Baba, CSJ  
January 1, 2017



# CSJ Associates



Denise Ginty, CSJA  
Director of Associates

## Ministry of Prayer and Presence

One of the first questions prospective Associates usually ask is, "What do we do?" Associate Kelly Kester-Smith in unit seven of the CSJ Associate Guide says, "Ministry is not so much a matter of the work we do but rather the mode, the quality of our being. It is that deeply personal, radically relational, profoundly human quality of being that flows out of the mission of Jesus Christ. We may change our ministries, but our mission remains the same. Without the mission, what we do is not ministry, but a job."

Usually, by the time Associates decide it is time to transition to Prayer and Presence they certainly aren't looking for a job. So what is the ministry of Prayer and Presence? Associates who feel they are being called to a quieter lifestyle due to health or age, are older, and unable to attend meetings or province events.

While some activities need to be pared back or stopped all together, it doesn't necessarily mean that ministry stops. While preparing to write this reflection I was able to talk with a 2017 Associate Jubilarian. During our conversation this amazing woman told me she is no longer an active Associate. She went on to tell me that being an Associate was meaningful for her. That is why she visits people at the local nursing home and why she brings Communion to a rehab unit weekly. Not every Associate who goes on to Prayer and Presence ministry can do these types of things. But they can still live the charism and mission by offering a kind word or smile. And they can still have a telephone conversation that provides needed material to write an article for DESIGNS. ➡

~ Written by Denise Ginty, CSJA  
Director of Associates

## Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation



l/r: Dolores Ricks with Pastor



Sister Diane Smith, CSJ

## Here I am Lord!

"Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord if you led me, I will hold your people in my heart." ~ Lyrics of Dan Schutte for song Here I Am Lord  
The lyrics to this song capture the meaning of ministry. Ministers are called by our God and those to whom they minister. A good minister holds people in her heart. It is all about relationship and mutuality. Ministry is not about a profession. It is about a calling.

Dolores Ricks was a Religious Education Coordinator in the inner city. When she picked up her check from the parish office it contained a pink notice with the explanation that the parish could no longer pay her. At first she was devastated. She loved her work and had excellent relationships with her catechists, students and parents. She knew that she could not abandon them. A couple of days later she went to the pastor and informed him that he could not terminate her because she was now a volunteer. Dolores is someone who has the heart of a minister.

Those of us who minister in the social justice, peace and ecological ministries are called to be compassionate and treat all of God's people and creation with respect. We are called to effect change not out of hostility or anger, but out of love. Nonviolence has a power that can overcome evil with good. A true minister comes from a place of love. When called to challenge an unjust system, it is not what we do but how we do it. It is about building relationships and treating with respect even with those who do not share our values. "I will hold your people in my heart" ➡

~ Submitted by Sister Diane Smith, CSJ  
Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Coordinator

# Names For God

## Ground of All Being



God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. ~ Gen 1:31

*A few years ago, Carondelet Artists published a bilingual collection of reflections and inspirational pieces written by the Sisters and Associates regarding the many names of God. Here is one written by Sister Mary Schneider, CSJ.*

The earth is full of the goodness of God. Look at the variety of plants, flowers, trees, fruits and vegetables growing out of the ground. Once, humans were formed from the clay of the earth and life was breathed into them. When I contemplate the variety of growing things, their color, size, fruit and blossoms, I realize that each comes from the ground and each is very different. Each shares a growing process. Each reaches a climax, a completion. Observing nature calls me into the mystery of human growth. Human life comes from God, the Ground of All Being. Each person grows and blossoms. Diversity is everywhere. Each person has been given life and has grown into the human person intended with a specific shape, size, cultural background, education or lack of education. The ground from which we came, nourished each person's growth and provided the nutrients for development. When you encounter others, appreciate the diversity you see and know that each person comes from God. Truly the earth is full of the goodness of God.

### BLESSING

May God, the Ground of All Being, the Ground that gave you life and nourished your growth, help you realize that you are the fruit of the ground in which you grow.

You reflect this Ground, bringing special gifts and beauty into the world. May you realize, too, that each person, each living, growing thing, also reflects the Ground and colors the world with unique gifts and beauty.

God, Ground of All Being, fill us with appreciation of all growing things—their variety of shapes, sizes, textures, intricate patterns and colors.

May this beauty help us accept the diversity in all human beings and allow us to acknowledge the gift of ourselves, the gift life is, counting each person as part of the earth filled with the goodness of God. ➡

~ Written by Sister Mary Schneider, CSJ



Sister Mary Schneider, CSJ

## Riders Ride



l/r: Sisters Colleen and Kathleen Harris, CSJs cycle on stationary bikes for the event.

## So Others Can Walk

Polio is a disease that we hear little about in the United States today, but there are still three countries where polio is endemic: Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. Those of us old enough, remember the threat of polio as youngsters before immunization became available and changed the lives of families in the United States. The work of Rotary International continues to try to eliminate polio in all corners of the world.

Sisters Colleen Harris and Kathleen Harris, CSJs recently accepted an invitation from their sister-in-law, Charlotte Harris, of Tucson AZ, to ride and raise funds for the Rotary effort. The Jewish Community Center opened their doors to indoor riders. The Sisters committed themselves to ride for *minutes* not *miles* on a *stationary bike*. Their commitment was for 90 minutes. The Ride to End Polio was in loving memory of their beloved brother, Michael Harris, who founded the ride with El Tour in 2009. Rotary riders came from all corners of the United States as well as France, Brazil, Canada and India. Today, the ride raises, with a 2 to 1 match with the Gates Foundation, over \$10,000,000 annually. With the money raised, the precious polio vaccine is purchased and distributed to children in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria.

On the day of the event in Tucson, AZ the Harris family assisted at an El Tour Aid Station with water, food or simply holding bikes for the 8,000 cyclists. There were shouts of gratitude and blessings for safety that could be heard across the desert.

"We experienced a deep sense of joy in collaborating with others in a global concern to eliminate polio," said Sister Colleen. "We're on the 'move' and looking forward to receiving the next invitation," added Sister Kathleen. Will they be open to collaborating with others in a water project, affordable housing, protecting our planet or an immigration reform? You bet! ❖

~ Written by Sisters Colleen and Kathleen Harris, CSJs

## Empowering Women to Change the World

Ashley Guanzon participated in her first of many service and justice trips when she was a student at Creighton University in Nebraska. "I actually remember Mr. Kirschbaum telling my senior Spirituality and Justice Class that we should go on at least one service trip in college because it will be life changing. He was right," she said. During her senior year of college she was on a service trip that was hosted by staff and volunteers of the St. Joseph Worker (SJW) Program in Minnesota. It was there that she learned about the policies and principles of implementing justice. Her first experience with the SJW Program was captivating and sparked her passion for social change.

The SJW Program was founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and creates an opportunity for women ages 21-30 to serve in under-represented areas of need in preparation for a life-long commitment to social change.

These women commit to a year of service where they explore the values of justice, leadership, spirituality and living simply in an intentional community. Fostered within the community of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Joseph Workers live out "the love of God and the dear neighbor without distinction." The SJW Program empowers women committed to social change to respond to the needs of the times.

This national program has seven locations from New York to Los Angeles. When Ashley learned there was a site in Los Angeles, she decided to apply and was accepted into the program. Ashley began the SJW Program this past August with six other young women and is part of the largest group since the program started in Los Angeles. She was placed at Immaculate Conception Parish School (ICS) located in downtown Los Angeles. ❖

~ Excerpted from an article written by Alexis Rodriguez, SJW and published by Our Lady of Peace Magazine Winter 2016.

## St. Joseph Worker Program



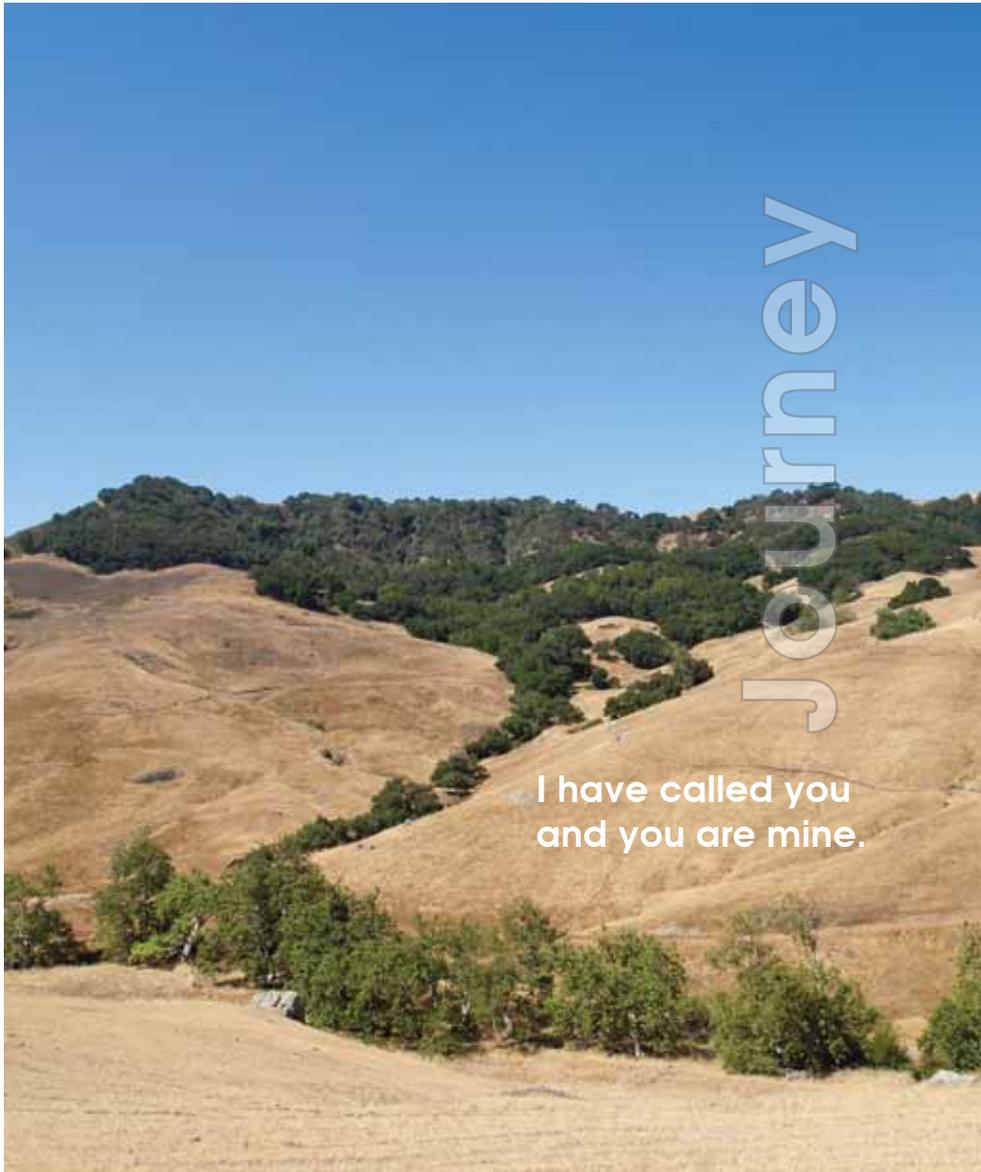
Ashley Guanzon, SJW worker

### On the Cover

The 2017 Jubilee theme of *Journey* came from our Jubilarians when they reflected on the meaning of Jubilee after 25, 50, 60 70, and 75 years of living the charism of the Sisters of St Joseph of Carondelet.

The journey of life can be long with its curves, twists, ups, downs, days and even longer nights. But every journey always includes strange and wonderful adventures with the people that are our companions, some of whom we ministered to and others who inspired us. I found the path you see on the cover of this publication in the hills of CA, but more importantly I found it in the lives of the Sisters and Associates who are steady in their love, high in their hope because of their relationship with God whose love continues to astonish and astound all of us. ➡

~ Sister Carol L Smith, CSJ  
Designer



I have called you  
and you are mine.