

HM
Sisters of the Humility of Mary

Voice

“A joyful spirit of simplicity and faith characterizes us as we share life together, love and support each other in community, and open our hearts and homes in hospitality.”

– HM Constitutions #6

Villa Employees Carry on Tradition of HM Hospitality



VMESC
Hospitality Coordinator
Dominick C.

In Celebration:

Seventeen HM Sisters rejoice in milestone years of vowed religious life and dedication to living each day in response to God’s call.

HM Voice

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Cover Photo:

Inspired by the example of HM Sisters, Villa hospitality lives on through its staff members. Pictured here: Dominick Commisso, hospitality coordinator for Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center, and Environmental Services staff.

Special thanks to Sister Joanne Gardner

Frequently Used Numbers

Main Line

724-964-8861

HM Development Office

724-964-8920, ext. 3291

The Villa Shoppe

724-964-8920, ext. 3249

The Villa Farm

724-964-8920, ext. 3385

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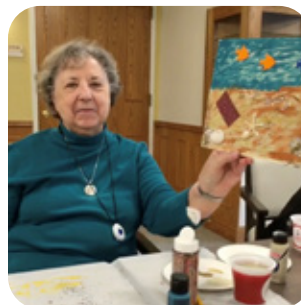
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Dear Friends,

In order to meet our publication deadline for this issue of the *HM Voice*, I am writing to you on Holy Thursday, the first day of the Triduum including the most significant feasts of Good Friday and Easter Sunday, the Resurrection of Jesus. When you receive this magazine, we will be well into the Easter season.

My thoughts this morning are of deepest gratitude for the gift of faith enabling us to grasp in some simple, but most encouraging way, that every life experience is held and given meaning in the mystery of Christ's suffering and death, the Paschal mystery. As a Congregation, our mission, which you know so well, is, "to bring more abundant life to God's people, especially those who are poor." But how do we even begin to grasp the sufferings of persons who are poor and marginalized, living with violence, and trying to survive in constant fear of death? How do we even begin to support the quiet sufferings of those around us: in our families and community, and among our circles of friends who have just received a very serious and frightening health diagnosis; those whose hearts are breaking as they witness family members suffering, and feeling utterly helpless, like Mary at the foot of the Cross?

We move on in hope and joy, we fulfill our mission with passion, because we know beyond a doubt that "Love has the Final Word." In the poem by this title, author Terry Nelson Johnson writes:

*"Easter is God's declaration that love has the last word
and that there really are only three things that last: faith, hope and love.
Easter, the fourth day of the Paschal Mystery, is God's affirmation
that there really is no limit to love's forbearance,
to its trust, its hope, its power to endure.
Easter is the felt knowledge of Julian of Norwich's poetic prayer:
'All shall be well, All shall be well, All manner of thing shall be well.'"*

In this summer issue of the *HM Voice* you will read about the combined 1,065 years of commitment of our Jubilarians, those who have lived and served HM witnessing to the truth that "love has the last word." They are an inspiration to us all.

Please enjoy stories of the HM legacy of hospitality that endures at the Villa to this day. So many of you have been a part of our legacy and story in one way or another. Sharing our lives with you is our joy, and counting on your prayers and support is its own inspiration. Please know you are in our daily thoughts and prayers with abiding gratitude. And, to each of you...a joyous Easter season full of new life and hope.

Lovingly,



Sr. Carol Anne Smith, HM
Pastoral Leader



Leadership Team

Sr. Margaret Marszal
Sr. Annette Solma

Sr. Anne Victory
Sr. Carol Anne Smith, Pastoral Leader

Villa Hospitality Runs on H.E.A.R.T.

By *Kylene Kamensky*

Ever since Mother Madelaine opened her home as a workroom and school for women and girls in her small French village, hospitality has been at the core of the HM identity. The spirit of that hospitality followed those early pioneer sisters across the ocean to take root in western Pennsylvania as they established a home on the property that has become Villa Maria.

Nursing their sick neighbors, welcoming orphans into their care, establishing a school on their grounds, and creating an infirmary for injured railroad workers are just some of the ways the HM Sisters showed their hospitality to their local community in those early days.

This legacy lives on as the sisters welcome retreatants and other groups to their home to share the spiritual nourishment it provides.

The seeds of hospitality continue to flourish today beyond the sisters through everyone who comes in contact with them—especially those who work at Villa Maria and carry on the sisters’ mission. These employees extend the sisters’ hospitality to all who visit the Villa’s sacred spaces with

the Villa core values of H.E.A.R.T.—Hospitality, Excellence, Appreciation, Respect, and Teamwork.

“When the Bon Secours Mercy Health Board and senior executives were here in October,” said Sr. Carol Anne Smith, HM Pastoral Leader, “one told me that they feel welcome wherever they go, but here at the Villa they felt loved.”

That love and hospitality take many forms on the Villa campus: smiling faces on the food service line in the dining room, around the hallways, and at reception desks; menus that are planned with great care for nutritional needs and meals prepared with loving hands; and public and private spaces around the campus that are tended to with meticulous precision.

“When the Bon Secours Mercy Health Board and senior executives were here in October, one told me that they feel welcome wherever they go, but here at the Villa they felt loved.”

— Sr. Carol Anne Smith, HM Pastoral Leader



Dominick Commisso, hospitality coordinator at Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center, waits to welcome a group to campus. Dom began his career at the Villa working in the kitchen for Cura Hospitality.

These small acts by staff create that loving atmosphere that is apparent to campus visitors.

Dominick Commisso, hospitality coordinator at Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center (VMESC), takes care of the many groups that attend retreats and programs on campus. Dom began his career working in the kitchen for Cura Hospitality, the contracted company that provides food service for the campus.

“I’ve been here now for seven years,” said Dom. “I started with dishwashing, line serving, and just any extra kitchen help they may have needed. Then in 2019, I came down to VMESC. I was thinking about leaving the kitchen at that time, so Matt [Abramowski, former VMESC



Bruce Goode, a Cura Hospitality staff member, checks on a soup in process during preparation for food service.

program director] asked me to come down here to help him out with whatever the groups may need.”

Dom was hired on as a hospitality associate, a position he held until 2021 when he became part time hospitality coordinator. In October 2021, he became full time hospitality coordinator when a former staff member left VMESC. Among his many duties are taking care of group check-ins and checkouts, doing room checks and setups, and focusing on that hospitality core with whatever the group’s needs are—from the smallest detail to the overall experience.

“Dom has a delightful presence and conveys the spirit we have and the spirit we extend to all who visit,” said Sr. Carol Anne.

“It’s the core of the sisters here and that’s the mission,” Dom said when asked about the importance of hospitality at the Villa. “I firmly believe that because it just makes guests feel so welcome here. It makes them feel at ease. I really try to carry that forward with the groups, whether that’s one-on-one, as a whole, or even just with the sisters or employees. I take it very seriously. I got to know a lot of groups throughout my time here from the kitchen, and a lot of the groups do remember me from when I worked there.”

Food is another important aspect of hospitality on the Villa campus. “It is the number one thing to bring everybody together,” said Stacy Julian of Cura Hospitality. Stacy, who has worked at the Villa for nearly ten

years, is administrative assistant to the food service director.

Cura Hospitality (previously called Aladdin) has been providing food service to the Villa since 2005 when the sisters decided to contract an outside company to take over operation of the kitchen.

Tom Jacobs, who became food service director at the Villa in October 2021, has been working in food service his entire career. Although fairly new to the Villa, he was glad to get back to this type of work.

“I like this type of service where you take care of one group of people over time and get to know what their needs and wants are,” Tom said. “Our goal is to always take it to the next step for the sisters and the residents and

continued on next page

staff—to constantly try to improve and give them better food, better service, and so on. Hospitality is very important. There’s such an amazing past here, and the culture is one of the most unique items. We try to embrace that and not just be a separate company within. I think the staff feels they are part of the family. They take pride in taking care of sisters, staff, and residents, and they have a lot of passion for it, which I think is an extension of the sisters’ passion for not only their home, but their history and their culture.”

“The staff that we have down in the kitchen—they know why they’re here,” added Stacy. “They know that this is the sisters’ home, and we are here to provide a service to them within that scope. Whatever we can do. They want their guests to be

"I think the staff feels they are part of the family. They take pride in taking care of sisters, staff, and residents, and they have a lot of passion for it, which I think is an extension of the sisters’ passion for not only their home, but their history and their culture."

—Tom Jacobs, Food Service Director, Cura Hospitality

welcome, and we want to present good quality meals because that’s a reflection of them.”

In the spirit of reflecting HM values, Tom implemented a Cura program called “Waste Nothing” in February 2022. The program puts emphasis on the preparation of ingredients and the use of leftovers in other meals

to cut down on food waste. Non-edibles, with the exception of meat byproducts, are sent to Villa Maria Farm for composting.

“I felt the program fit the culture of the sisters,” Tom said. “The first few weeks [after implementing the program] we had to take away the trash cans while everyone learned how to prepare the items. I had to analyze what they did and tell them how to get more off a particular item, but the staff are so good at it now. Anything that can’t be used in a different recipe is sent to the farm for composting. We log everything in pounds daily, and our average day is about 16 pounds of waste that goes to the farm.”

The sisters also compost on their resident floors and Tom said that Cura delivers that to the farm as well.

Other Cura programs that have been implemented at the Villa are providing infused water stations at several locations around campus, which helps promote a welcoming atmosphere for guests, and the Be Well program, which features samples of a dietitian developed recipe once a month.

“What makes the Villa different from other sites is you feel like you’re at home,” Tom said. “The staff are not just here working for people; they’re



Stacy Julian works for Cura Hospitality at Villa Maria as the administrative assistant to the food service director. Among her duties are ordering, helping with event planning, and acting as liaison with departments on campus.



The Environmental Services Department makes sure the buildings on the Villa Maria campus stay neat and orderly. Pictured from L to R: Renee, Mary, Christina, Kelly, Toni, Rhonda, Rose, and Donna.

making an effort to be a part of the history. There's a lot of heart in it."

Also putting a lot of heart into their work is the environmental services department. The invisible work they do is yet another facet of Villa hospitality.

Keeping up with the demands of such a large campus requires careful planning and attention to detail. Mary Taylor, environmental services manager, runs a seven-day-a-week operation to tackle just that. She and her staff take care of the buildings

on campus, making sure the Villa's public and private spaces are clean, organized, and comfortable.

"Everybody has their areas that they take care of," said Mary. "We keep things clean and disinfected and also take care of the laundry. We take care of the guest rooms and the sisters' rooms as well as the common spaces. With Villa Maria Commons opening, we are training on those floors as well."

Environmental Services is also responsible for the many furniture

groupings in various spaces around the Villa campus. These spaces create a comfortable atmosphere for the sisters to gather together, for guests to relax in while on retreat, or for small groups to have a bit of privacy while visiting campus.

Environmental services staff also greet guests and other retreatants they come across as they go about their duties.

"Since we're here seven days a week, we interact with guests that are here visiting or on retreat," Mary said. "We always make sure to greet everyone we see, and make their experience here a good one. I couldn't do my job without my staff, and I really appreciate all their hard work. They make me look good."

So in this sometimes-inhospitable world, don't be afraid to follow the example of Mother Madelaine and reach out your hand in welcome. A small act of kindness can make a world of difference.

"Waste Nothing" – a Cura program implemented in February 2022 – puts emphasis on the preparation of ingredients and the use of leftovers in other meals to cut down on food waste. Non-edibles, with the exception of meat byproducts, are sent to Villa Maria Farm for composting.

Off the Beaten Path: Villa Shrines

You may be familiar with the Our Lady of Humility statue, which stands in the circle of the front driveway, or the French Madonna the founding sisters brought with them from France, which is located in the Conference Center hallway. There are many statues and shrines around the Villa grounds, but do you know where the statues of St. Joseph stand? What about a sculpture celebrating Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette?

In the Fall 2021 issue of the *HM Voice*, we featured the statue of the blessed mother near the picnic pavilion in the Villa woods. She is just one of many statues that make the sacred spaces of Villa Maria a peaceful place for all who visit.

Next time you're at the Villa, why not take a stroll and rediscover some of these out-of-the-way statues? You might just find a new favorite spot! Don't forget to tag us on social media when you find them! #villamariapa #villashrines



Statue of St. Joseph

This statue of St. Joseph is located on the north side of the Activities building, aka the gym for the former Villa Maria High School. St. Joseph is a primary and special patron for the HM Community. Mother Madelaine Potier found great solace in praying to St. Joseph, the patron of a happy death. Our priest founder generally signed his name “Rev. J. Joseph Begel” to emphasize his devotion to his patron saint. The first school at the Villa was “St. Joseph School” and the infirmary for the railroad workers was also named after the patron saint of workers.



Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette

This sculptured rendering celebrating Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette is located on the wall of an outdoor porch near Magnificat Chapel. It can be seen from the hallway near the Villa library. At one time this stone sculpture was in one single piece, but many years ago it fell from its original location and injured one of the sisters. Its new home was determined to be a safer location, yet one where the art can still be viewed.



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Image of Mary in Metal

Located on the south wall in the Zen Garden between the Administration building and the outdoor porch, this artistic rendering of Our Lady adds to the serenity of the space. During construction of the Conference Center (summer of 2003 until summer of 2004), many of the construction workers on the project chose this location for their breaks and lunch.

Next time you're at the Villa, why not take a stroll and rediscover some of these out-of-the-way statues? You might just find a new favorite spot!

Tag us on social media when you find some of these out-of-the-way statues!
[#villamariapa](#) [#villashrines](#)



Statue of St. Joseph the Worker

This newer statue of St. Joseph the Worker (notice the tools in his hands) is definitely “off the beaten path.” You can find it in the service driveway north of the pool. It was located in this area to celebrate the workers who come to the loading dock, deliver the mail, and the Villa employees, who at one time came in the previously used “employee entrance.”

Art and Prayer Sessions Spark Creativity, Nourish the Spirit

Contributed by Sr. Colleen Ungashick

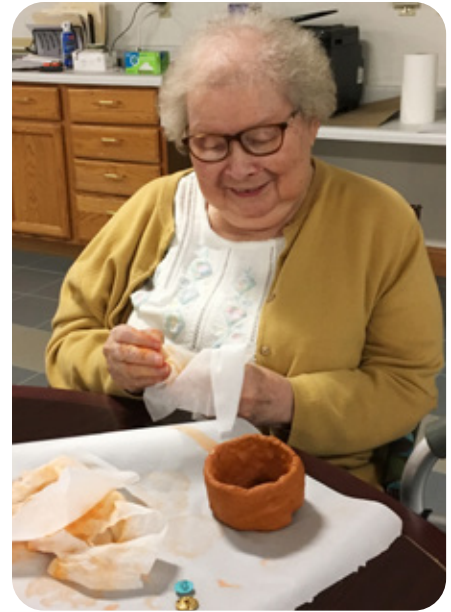
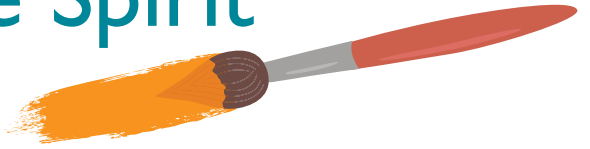
Each Wednesday morning, a vibrant, courageous, prayerful group of sisters gather with open minds, willing hands, and healthy curiosity.

Art and Prayer Meditation sessions facilitated by Sr. Colleen Ungashick, have been an offered activity in Villa Maria Commons since 2017. The hour-long gathering is an invitation for sisters to come together, pray, and create. No art experience is necessary and all are welcome. Each sister who participates takes away a beautiful piece of artwork, satisfaction gained from engaging in the process, usually a smile, and always a word of gratitude. “I look forward to this

time!” said Sr. Marguerite Holz of her participation in the sessions.

An array of projects includes seasonal collage, Celtic cross inspired paper mosaic, assembling wreaths from a variety of materials, painting and embellishing on wood, clay pinch pots, colored tissue paper sun-catchers, watercolor on wood, handmade Christmas ornaments, and decoupage. Many resulting art pieces are exhibit-worthy!

More precious, even, than the final product is the shared time and conversation, and the process of learning and creating. Art, like music, is healthy for the brain! Mind, body, and spirit are nourished. An individual engaging in creative expression may experience a spiritual state akin to meditation—with



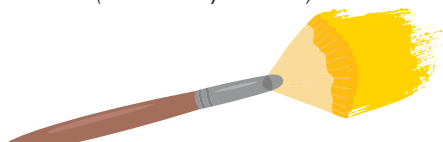
Sr. Marguerite Holz tries her hand at clay work. (Contributed by Sr. Colleen)

focus, calm, and consciously or unconsciously bringing forth beauty into the immediate ambience, and existentially into the universe.

Each sister’s personality and style shines in and through her artwork. Some pieces are beautifully simple; others are very accurately balanced; some are generously while tastefully embellished; others, brave experiments that turned out pleasingly well. Diversity and unity are present in harmony. Community is created and nurtured. In sharing thoughts, ideas, and affirmations of one another, everyone learns something new. Creating in a positive, judgment-free atmosphere, participants can relax and enjoy both process and product, happy with their talent and ability emerging right before their eyes!



[L to R]: Sr. Marguerite Holz, with Sr. Colleen Ungashick, Sr. Marjorie King, and Sr. Mary Ann Warner show off the paintings they created during an Art and Prayer Meditation session. (Contributed by Sr. Colleen)



In Celebration

The HM Congregation is honoring 17 Jubilarians as they celebrate 25, 60, 65, 70, and 80 years of vowed religious life. These sisters have ministered in archive ministry, congregational leadership, counseling, diocesan administration and consultation, education, finance, healthcare and healthcare administration, hospitality, housing ministry, leadership development, nonprofit management, office administration, parish and pastoral ministry, prison ministry, program administration, religious education, social justice, social services, spiritual direction, and vocation ministry. Through their ministries and in their prayers, they have witnessed God's love to the people of God and have touched many lives along the way.

25 Years



Sister Mary Stanco was born March 29, 1967, to Pauline and Richard Stanco, the youngest of eight children. She is

an aunt to 18 nieces and nephews, and as of November 2022, a great aunt to a grandniece.

She entered the HM Community on October 20, 1996, as a candidate from St. Bernadette Church in Westlake, Ohio; she made perpetual vows in 2004. Prior to entering the community, she graduated from Magnificat High School, Rocky River, Ohio, in 1985 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in English with a minor in Theology from St. Bonaventure University, and a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Pittsburgh. She worked at Cleveland State University Law Library as a librarian prior to entering the community.

Once in the community, Sr. Mary ministered at St. Colman's Church in Cleveland with the Sisters of St. Joseph and the St. Vincent de Paul Society outreach. She graduated in 2003 from Case Western Reserve's Mandel School of

Social Science Management of Nonprofit Organization master's program. Upon graduation from Case she ministered with Humility of Mary Housing, Inc. (HMHI).

Sr. Mary worked with Cobalt, Inc. for the Mandel Foundation's Neighborhood Leadership Development Program and the Sisters of Charity Foundation in 2007, and then went on to serve as a regional site director for Notre Dame Mission Volunteer-AmeriCorps in Baltimore from 2009-2012 where she oversaw young adult volunteers in New York City, Rochester, N.Y., and Washington D.C. She served as the Director of Humility of Mary Volunteer Service from 2012-2018 where she ministered with young adult volunteers and service sites serving the needs of families who were migrant workers and immigrants in Immokalee, Fla.; Miami; Cleveland; and Youngstown. She also ministered collaboratively with the Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown's volunteer program and nationally with Catholic Volunteer Network.

In 2019 Sr. Mary accepted a position with the Leadership Collaborative, an organization that was formed by religious communities for emergent servant leadership development of religious sisters, associates, and partners in ministry. She is currently enrolled in a coaching program with the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh

to become a certified life coach. In 2022, she accepted a position as the Executive Director of Women of Providence in Collaboration, where she ministers with sisters from ten Providence communities from the United States and Canada.

When I started my novitiate 25 years ago, my life became a part of 150 years plus of the Sisters of the Humility of Mary who have responded to the needs of the times with faith, hope and love with the people of God. Each day I pray these words "... God is faithful, hope is a way of life and love brings about peace and justice." The words from the HM Constitutions are a response to remain faithful to the abiding presence of God in the world, to live out of hope through my prayer life and be able to seek with others in community and ministry a common ground of love and forgiveness. It has been more than 25 years of listening as I ministered to many stories of joy and pain. It is in many encounters with others and in relationship to my family that I have come to understand what it is to respond to the gospel. I have been grateful as in the words from Dag Hammarskjöld's Markings, "To remain a recipient out of humility. And preserve your flexibility. To remain a recipient and be grateful. Grateful for being allowed to listen, to observe, to understand." As the community celebrates with me 25 years we will proclaim "...my soul magnifies

the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God My Savior. For God has done great things for me and holy is God's name." This is proclaimed as Mary greets Elizabeth. A relationship of two women of different generations, sharing their faith in God, entrust in giving and receiving, a love that speaks of God's love for each of us. I have been incredibly blessed to be able to be part of this intergenerational experience as an HM as well as part of sisters from many different communities through Giving Voice and the Leadership Collaborative as we journey together to unfold all that God has called us to in this day and age.

– Sr. Mary Stanco, HM

60 Years



Sister Rose Anne Hanlon

(Sister Mary Coletta) entered the HM Community in 1962 from St. Paul Parish,

Canton and professed her perpetual vows in 1970.

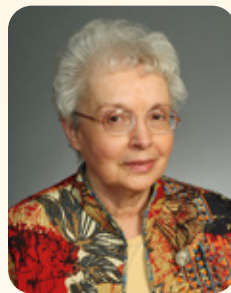
A 1958 graduate of Canton Central Catholic High School, she completed her BA in 1962 from the former St. Mary of the Springs College, Columbus, Ohio. Sister Rose Anne earned her MEd from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh in 1973.

Sr. Rose Anne has ministered in the field of secondary education as a teacher and guidance counsellor including assignments at Central Catholic High School, Canton; Lourdes Academy, Cleveland; Villa Maria High School, Villa Maria, Pa.; and Ursuline High School, Youngstown.

She served as associate director at the Youngstown Diocesan Office of Church

Vocations and was a staff member at Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center; Villa Maria. Sr. Rose Anne was director of the library and a transportation volunteer at Villa Maria Community Center. She currently serves in the HM Ministry of Prayer and faith-filled presence at Villa Maria Community Center.

She is the daughter of the late James and Margaret (Ball) Hanlon.



Sister Barbara Lenarcic,

formerly Sister Kenneth Marie, entered the HM Community in 1962 from St.

Aloysius Church, Cleveland. She professed her perpetual vows in 1971.

A 1955 graduate of Villa Angela Academy, Cleveland, Sister Barbara earned her BSE and her MSE in Religious Education from St. John College, Cleveland. She completed her MA in Community Counseling from The University of Akron.

She has ministered as a classroom teacher at Annunciation, Akron; Blessed Sacrament, Cleveland; St. Joseph, Massillon and Our Lady of Grace, Scott Township (Pittsburgh). She served as the Director of Religious Education at St. Joseph Parish, Ashtabula; Blessed Sacrament Parish, Cleveland; and St. Joan of Arc Parish, Streetsboro.

As a licensed professional counselor and pastoral counselor she ministered at Catholic Community Services, Canton; and St. Brendan Parish, North Olmsted. Sr. Barbara was a pastoral minister at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarion, PA; and served as a therapist and spiritual director at Ecclesia Center, Girard PA.

For 10 years Sr. Barbara offered spiritual direction and was a retreat team member at Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center; Villa Maria PA. She currently serves in the HM Ministry of Prayer at Villa Maria Community Center.

She is the daughter of the late Frank and Pauline (Srnovrsnik) Lenarcic.



Sister Mary Beth Marquard

(Sr. Bernadette Marie) entered the HM Community from St. James Church,

Lakewood, Ohio. A 1962 graduate of Magnificat High School, she earned her BSE from St. John College, Cleveland, and her MA in Counseling/Human Services from John Carroll University, Cleveland. She served as a teacher in the Cleveland and Pittsburgh dioceses for six years before serving as a pastoral minister at several parishes in the Cleveland area. She was on the committee for the founding of the Westside Catholic Center in Cleveland, which has aided those in need for over 40 years, and volunteered in the organization's early days to help the center open its doors.

Sr. Mary Beth ministered at Recovery Resources and Our Lady of Angels, Cleveland as a therapist and mental and spiritual health therapist respectively, and served as a consultant for the Diocese of Cleveland Tribunal. From 2009-2011, she served the HM Community as part of the Membership Team.

Sr. Mary Beth has ministered as a spiritual director/therapist at Centering Space in Cleveland since 2017.

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60 Years *continued*



As a Magnificat High School student, **Sister Kathleen McIntyre** loved the Blue Nuns who taught there.

After graduation she entered the HM Community September 12, 1962, from St. Patrick [Westpark] Parish in Cleveland. Ten months later she received the traditional blue habit and the religious name Sister Ann Maureen. After professing first vows she attended Ursuline College where she studied English and Spanish in preparation to teach in secondary education, graduating in 1968.

Her first teaching assignments were at Magnificat and Canton Central Catholic. She later attended the University of Akron, earning her Master's degree in counseling in 1977. During her graduate studies she worked with the university's Peer Tutoring Program. Upon completion of her degree Sr. Kathleen remained at the university as a counselor and coordinator of the Tutoring Program. She loved the students and the wide diversity and especially loved working with student-athletes. She developed a deep love for Black students and their families and was especially honored by the Black Student Union, which awarded her the "Extra Miler Award." After 25 years at the University of Akron, she retired. However, she continued to teach or tutor part-time at three Akron Catholic high schools particularly supporting Black and Hispanic students.

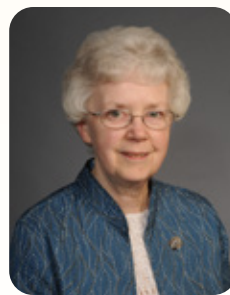


Sister Susan Schorsten entered the HM Community from St. Louis Parish, Louisville, and Canton Central Catholic. As she

reflects on her 60+ years as an HM Sister her heart is filled with gratitude to God for God's abundant love and mercy. God has invited her through the years with multiple 'annunciations' to which she has responded with a 'yes' - sometimes with a resounding 'yes' and at others with "are you sure you know what you are doing God?"

She has been blessed in so many ways ministering in health care, diocesan social ministry, leadership, consultation with other religious communities, and retreat work. She owes so much to the wonderful people with whom she has shared ministry, who challenged her and shared with her their gifts and blessings.

Sr. Susan has come to an ever-growing awareness of her daily need for contemplative time – to discern God's daily invitations to "announce the liberating message of the gospel and to bring more abundant life to God's people." (HM Constitutions #3)



Sister Anne Victory (formerly Sister Sheila Ann) currently serves as a member of the HM Leadership

Team. She entered the HM Community in 1962 from St. Luke Parish, Lakewood, Ohio. Following graduation from St.

John College, Cleveland, with her RN and BSN, she served for 32 years as a clinician, educator, and administrator in nursing, director of staff education, and VP for Mission at St. Joseph Hospital, Lorain, Ohio, now called Mercy Health. During this time, she also received her Master's degree in Nursing from Ohio State University.

Following two terms as a member of the HM Leadership Team from 2001-2009, Sr. Anne worked as director of education for the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking for 11 years and continues to volunteer for the organization as a speaker on the issue of human trafficking. She is a co-founder and board member of U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking, a national network of sisters and others dedicated to ending the crime of human trafficking and part of the international network, Talitha Kum, sponsored by the International Union of Superiors General in Rome.

65 Years

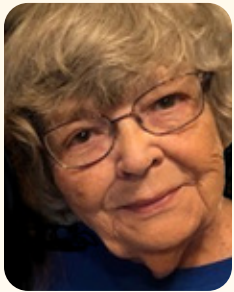


Sister Joanne Bormet (Sr. Mary Josetta, SND), daughter of the late Joseph and Katherine (Brown) Bormet, graduated from

Notre Dame Academy, Cleveland in 1958 and entered the Sisters of Notre Dame that same year. In 1970 she joined the Sisters of the Humility of Mary from St. Joseph Parish, Randolph.

She received her BSE from St. John College, Cleveland and her MEd from Kent State University. As an educator, Sr.

Joanne taught in parish schools in the Cleveland and Youngstown dioceses for 42 years. Her longest tenure was at St. Ambrose, Brunswick for 16 years after which she served on the parish staff for two years. From 2006-15 she gave computer and technical assistance to Villa Montessori Center in Slavic Village, Cleveland. In 2017 Sr. Joanne returned to Villa Maria Community Center where she crochets as a member of the prayer shawl ministry; volunteers around the Villa, and serves in the Ministry of Prayer:



Sister Margaret Cessna (Sister Mary Philip) currently serves as a family mentor volunteer with Cleveland

Catholic Charities Department of Migration and Refugee Services.

She ministered for 27 years in education as a secondary teacher in several high schools in the Cleveland and Youngstown dioceses. In 1991, Sr. Margaret helped found Heartbeats, Inc., a nonprofit organization that helped promote the works of women, minority, and developing world artists; she acted as executive director of the organization for ten years.

Writing is a big part of Sr. Margaret's life. She has written two books, *The Parrot Lady and Other Moments of Everyday Grace* in 2007 and *Home to Each Other and More Moments of Everyday Grace* in 2010. She has also authored many articles on different topics for publications such as *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *Momentum: Journal of the National Catholic Educational Association*, *Human Development*, *National Catholic Reporter*, and *Global Sisters Report*.

Sr. Margaret graduated from Ursuline High School in Youngstown, Ohio, and entered the HM Community from St. Edward Parish. She received her BA from Ursuline College in Cleveland and her MA in Religious Studies from the University of Detroit.



Sister Rosemary Hammer, formerly Sister M. Cyril, entered the HM Community in 1958 from St. Raphael Parish in

Bay Village. She professed her perpetual vows in 1965.

She has served the people of God in diverse fields of ministry including education, healthcare administration, congregational leadership, pastoral ministry, and finance. Among the many areas of service she has taken on are teacher and principal in the Cleveland and Pittsburgh dioceses; President/CEO at Rose-Mary Center, Euclid, Ohio, and the former Assumption Village, North Lima, Ohio; councilor on the HM Leadership Team; pastoral minister and coordinator of Mission Effectiveness at Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio; and director of finance at Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center and the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking. She currently serves in the HM Ministry of Prayer at Villa Maria Community Center.

Sr. Rosemary has also served on numerous boards and committees over the years for hospitals, the HM Community, and a regional consortium providing services for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Sr. Rosemary is a 1957 graduate of Villa Maria High School, Villa Maria, Pa. She received her BA from Ursuline College, Cleveland, her MA from Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt. and her MBA from Cleveland State University. She is the daughter of the late Peter G. and Kathryn (Reed) Hammer:



Sister Rose Huber, formerly Sister M. Donna Rose, SND, currently serves in the Prayer Shawl ministry, as

a volunteer at Villa Maria Community Center, and in the HM Ministry of Prayer:

Along her life's journey, Sr. Rose has been blessed to have family, community, and friends who helped her know herself and be the person she is today. She served as a teacher at various parish schools in the Cleveland and Youngstown dioceses and as a religious educator in East Palestine, Ohio, and in Georgia. She learned sign language during her time in Georgia and served at the Catholic Office for the Deaf in Pittsburgh, Pa. Her ministry with hearing-impaired people continued in the Diocese of Trenton, N.J., where she worked with hearing-impaired families and at the New Jersey School for the Deaf.

While living in New Jersey, Sr. Rose ministered in social work and as a chaplain at Albert C. Wagner Correctional Facility for men in Bordentown, N.J. As the field supervisor for interns with Princeton Theological Seminary, she was able to enhance her ministry as a chaplain with more programs in the prison.

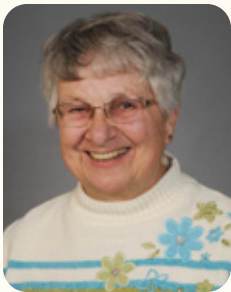
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65 Years *continued*

When she returned to Ohio, Sr. Rose served for five years at Holy Apostles Parish as a pastoral minister; as a police chaplain with the Youngstown Police Department, and as chaplain in the Pastoral Care department at Northside Regional Medical Center until its closure in 2018.

Her volunteer work has included EMT service, ecumenical programs, services to the poor at community kitchens, and outreach to the elderly in public housing units where she lived. Since retiring to the Villa, Sr. Rose continues her outreach efforts through phone calls and letters. She also loves meeting apartment residents and offering hospitality to guests who come to the Villa.

Sr. Rose tries to see the face of God in every person she encounters and has been blessed to continue to witness the Good News.



Sister Kathleen Lackamp

entered religious life in 1957 from St. Jerome Church, Cleveland. A

1957 graduate of Notre Dame Academy, Cleveland she completed her BSE from St. John College, Cleveland in 1972.

Sixty-five years, she doesn't see how it could be possible! Her life has been one of joy and peace. She taught primary children for over 40 years in eight different schools in the Diocese of Cleveland where she truly loved the children. After retiring Sr. Kathleen spent many years teaching the "Apron program" for LifeBanc in the greater Cleveland area. She loves gardening, crocheting,

and traveling and is so grateful to her Community who supported her in all her endeavors. She currently serves in the HM Ministry of Prayer.

Sr. Kathleen is the daughter of the late Leo and Florence (Murphy) Lackamp.



Sister Barbara Noble,

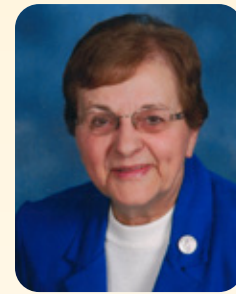
formerly Sister Joellen, has ministered as a registered nurse in the

Cleveland Diocese at St. Joseph Hospital, Lorain and Rose-Mary Center, Euclid and in the Youngstown Diocese at St. Joseph Riverside Hospital and St. Joseph Health Center, Warren, and St. Elizabeth Health Center, Youngstown. At St. Joseph Health Center, Warren, and Humility of Mary Health Partners, Youngstown/Warren/Boardman, she was coordinator of patient-family education and staff educator.

Presently she continues to serve as archivist for St. Joseph Warren Hospital and is a member of the Development Foundation Board for Mercy Health. For the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown, Sr. Barbara is a member on the Diocesan Conference of Religious. She also assists with environmental decoration for St. Robert's Church in Cortland, Ohio.

Sr. Barbara, a graduate of Roosevelt High School, Kent, received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Kent State University, Kent, and her Master of Science in Health and Human Services from Columbia Pacific University, San Rafael, Calif. She is the daughter of the late Joseph and Helen (Zalewski) Noble and is one of eight children, six living. Sr. Barbara entered the HM Community from St. Patrick Parish, Kent, on January 12, 1958.

70 Years



Sister Barbara Herrmann

(Sister Leo), daughter of the late Francis L. and Bertha (Wilhelm) Herrmann, has served as a

teacher, administrator and business office staff in her 61 years of active ministry. She graduated from Villa Maria High School, Villa Maria, Pa., in 1951 and entered the Humility of Mary Community from St. Joseph Parish, Sharon, Pa., in 1953.

She completed both her BSE and MSE at St. John College, Cleveland. Sr. Barbara taught in the primary grades for 12 years in the Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Youngstown dioceses. For 23 years she served as school principal at Annunciation, Akron; St. James, Lakewood; and St. Patrick, Hubbard. In 1992 she joined the Finance Office team at Villa Maria Community Center taking on responsibilities as payroll manager for 15 years. She has since provided transportation services for the sisters in residence at Villa Maria and serves in the HM Ministry of Prayer.



Sister Marjorie King,

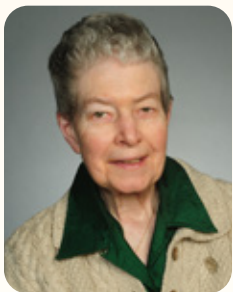
formerly Sister Luellen, entered the HM Community in 1953 from Annunciation

Parish, Akron. She professed her perpetual vows in 1958. A 1952 graduate of the former St. Mary High School, Akron, she completed her BSE from St. John College in 1966 and earned her MSE in 1971

from Indiana State University in Terra Haute, Ind.

Sr. Marjorie has ministered as an elementary teacher in parish schools in the Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Youngstown dioceses. Her ministries have been as diverse as coordinating religious education programs and ministering at facilities in Michigan and Ohio that housed women reclaiming their lives after being released from prison or rehab. She served in a CASA/Guardian ad Litem capacity with the Mahoning County Courts [Youngstown, Ohio] and was with St. Anthony's Point in Sharon, Pa., giving therapeutic staff support. She served in hospitality ministry at Villa Maria Retreat Center and was a dedicated volunteer in the Humility of Mary archives at Villa Maria. She currently serves in the HM Ministry of Prayer at Villa Maria Community Center.

She is the daughter of the late Charles William and Ellen (Gallagher) King.



Sister Ann McManamon

(Sr. Mary Patrick) most recently served as coordinator of the Dorothy Day House

of Hospitality, Youngstown, Ohio, which opened in November 2009. She also serves in the HM Ministry of Prayer.

She has ministered in education as a teacher, high school administrator, diocesan education consultant, and assistant superintendent of secondary schools; as a manager in Christian housing for seniors and in administration in a seminary; in the health care field as VP for

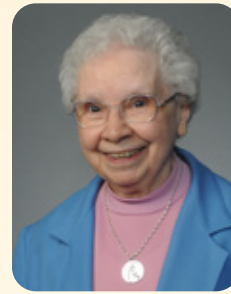
Mission Services at St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center; and in parish ministry during her 13 years as pastoral associate at St. Christine Parish in Youngstown. Sr. Ann has served on numerous councils and boards in Youngstown as well as committees for the Sisters of the Humility of Mary.

Sr. Ann was born and raised in Cleveland where she graduated from Lourdes Academy prior to entering the Sisters of the Humility of Mary in 1953. She received her BA from Notre Dame College and her MA from the University of Notre Dame. She earned MA certification in administration and supervision from John Carroll University and MA certification in Church Management from Seton Hall University. She is a 1996 graduate of Leadership Mahoning Valley and the recipient of a Youngstown Catholic Charities Voice of Hope Award in 2010.

70th year! Who would've thought I would ever reach 70 in those early, early years? But how wonderful these 70 years have been, both in the opportunity to receive and to give! I've certainly been blessed by my time in administration and teaching, and ending up with 16 years in the development of Dorothy Day's "House of Hospitality." Hopefully I am blessed by leaving this world in that belief: that with Dorothy Day, we were indeed created to serve the poor and to learn from the poor all the many, many things I (especially) do not know! Please pray for all those who come to those doors, and remember me as that one little, humble servant in the process, making those doors possible for all of us.

—Sr. Ann McManamon, HM

80 Years



Sister Margaret Mary Siegfried

was born July 29, 1924, in Canton, Ohio. Baptized on August 10, 1924, as Dorothy Rita Siegfried at

St. John the Baptist Church, Canton, she graduated from Mount Marie Academy in Canton in June 1942. She entered the Sisters of the Humility of Mary later that year on September 8.

Sr. Margaret Mary went on to earn a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and served as a pharmacist at St. Joseph Riverside Hospital in Warren, Ohio, and St. Elizabeth Hospital in Youngstown, Ohio. After retiring from the pharmacy in 1994, she volunteered at St. Elizabeth in several different departments.

Sr. Margaret Mary continues to volunteer her time at Mercy Health St. Elizabeth Youngstown Hospital and serves in the HM Ministry of Prayer.

I am celebrating a Jubilee of Thanksgiving for all the graces and blessings of the past 80 years of religious life: of joy in the Lord; in the presence of the blessed Trinity; of increased faith that God is always faithful to His promises; of renewed hope for the future of religious life and of our community of the Sisters of the Humility of Mary; of increased and deepened love of God and His people, that we may grow together toward a better world on Earth and eternal life in the world to come; of constant prayer for all people, living and dead, who have supported and encouraged me in my journey; and of inner peace in the comforting knowledge of the complete faithfulness and total forgiveness of our loving God.

—Sr. Margaret Mary Siegfried, HM

Villa Sisters Spotlight

By *Kylene Kamensky*

Catholic Sisters don't retire, they merely change ministries. In this issue, we highlight two more "retired" sisters living at the Villa and the ways they are still serving and listening to where God is calling them.



Sr. Rose Huber enjoys participating in Liturgy in Magnificat Chapel at Villa Maria Community Center.

Sr. Rose Huber

Sr. Rose Huber retired from active ministry in 2018 after serving for 56 years as an educator, religious education director, minister to the hearing impaired, chaplain, and pastoral minister in four states. Born in Maryland, she entered the Sisters of Notre Dame before transferring to the Sisters of the Humility of Mary in 1970.

She began her years of active ministry serving in elementary education in the Cleveland, Ohio area. When she moved to Stone Mountain, Ga., to serve as a director of religious education, Sr. Rose encountered something that changed her. One of

the students in her class was hearing-impaired and had an interpreter, which introduced Sr. Rose to sign language. She began learning it herself and joined an interpretative choir at her parish that was started by the mother of that hearing-impaired child.

Sr. Rose polished her sign language skills at the Catholic Office for the Deaf in the Pittsburgh Diocese and began serving the hearing-impaired community and their families in the Diocese of Trenton, N.J. at the Marie Katzenback School for the Deaf in the early 1980s. While ministering there, she developed a video of religious signs and prayers that could be used as a teaching tool called "Signs of Praise."

She felt called by God to begin working in prison ministry in 1990 and served as a chaplain at the Albert C. Wagner Correctional Institution in Bordentown, N.J., for 17 years. Her memories of ministering in the men's state prison system remain with her to this day.

"I will never forget, after passing security, the chilling sound of the heavy metal doors when you first set foot inside the prison," said Sr. Rose. "Here I found so many young men who had been from dysfunctional

families, separated from loved ones, isolated and unloved. Yet there was within each one so much hidden potential and giftedness. The presence of God was needed. I tried to bring compassion, love, and hope."

After leaving prison ministry, Sr. Rose returned to Ohio and served as pastoral minister at Holy Apostles Parish in Youngstown. There she also volunteered serving meals at the Community Kitchen, delivered donations to the Dorothy Day House, and served for five years as a volunteer police chaplain with the Youngstown Police Department. She left the volunteer position with the YPD to minister as a chaplain at Northside Medical Center in Youngstown until its closure in 2018.

Activities at the Villa keep her busy these days, and she does a lot of phone and letter outreach. She also crochets items for donation as part of the Prayer Shawl ministry. Sr. Rose enjoys meeting residents of Villa Maria Apartments and greeting guests that attend various VMESC programs. In addition, she prays daily for the HM Associate Community, the JOY participants, and the Young Adult Ministry.



Sr. Rose during her time working in prison ministry in New Jersey. (Contributed by Sr. Rose)



Sr. Rose with some of her students at Marie Katzenback School for the Deaf in Trenton, N.J.
(Contributed by Sr. Rose)

“I like meeting people, trying to build a relationship, and just helping them where they are,” she said. “I have tried to see the face of God in every person. In looking back, I am filled with gratitude to my parents and all those faith-filled people that have supported me on my life’s journey. Now, I am grateful and blessed to live here at Villa Maria and to be able to witness God’s love.”

Sr. Barbara Lenarcic

Sr. Barbara Lenarcic’s journey to becoming an HM Sister was not the “typical” path to religious life. She had no prior connection with the community as she had been taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph in elementary school and the Cleveland Ursulines in high school.

“It was pure Holy Spirit,” said Sr. Barbara. “I entered late—what was considered late at the time. I had worked as a secretary and sang with various orchestras in Cleveland. When I was 25, I had just come back from touring with the Warren Covington-Tommy Dorsey Band and started to attend church again. In

confession the priest said to me, ‘are you sure you don’t have a religious vocation?’ I thought he was crazy, but he just happened to be the brother of Sr. Rita Costello, HM [deceased]. That planted the seed and then I met Sr. Maria Crucis Polk, HM [deceased] and she became my mentor in a way.”

Sr. Barbara ministered in primary education for 14 years before becoming director of religious education for several parishes in the Cleveland and Youngstown dioceses. It was while serving as a pastoral minister at a parish in Erie that she decided to pursue the education to become a counselor.

“When I was pastoral minister people were beginning to talk to me, and I was trying to help them,” Sr. Barbara said. “I thought it would be good to go back to school because that is a switch [from pastoral ministry to professional counseling].”

She served as a professional counselor, therapist, and spiritual director for 12 years before returning to Villa Maria Community Center,

where she became part of the retreat team and a spiritual director at Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center (VMESC). Sr. Barbara ministered at VMESC until 2018 when she retired from active ministry.

Now, Sr. Barbara loves to spend time in conversation with other sisters as she finds it very soul enriching. She also enjoys doing art, which has been a life-long passion.

“I’ve been doing art all my life. When I was 12 years old, my mother took me to the Cleveland Art Museum every Saturday for lessons, and I remember going outside and picking an object and drawing that. I find satisfaction in it—to be able to express myself through art. I find that it helps me in my prayer life as well—to be able to let that creativity come out, which is totally in the presence of God.”



Sr. Barbara Lenarcic retired from active ministry in 2018. She enjoys helping with Liturgy, conversing with other sisters, and spending time on her art. Her favorite mediums are clay and colored pencil.

Items of Interest



Sister Honored at Annual Dinner

Sr. Jean Orsuto was honored with an award at the Catholic Charities, Diocese of Youngstown annual Voice of Hope dinner on May 4. Sr. Jean was one of three recipients recognized for their “dedication, service, and support of the ministry of Catholic Charities over the course of their vocation with the Church.” Father James Korda and St. John Catholic School, Ashtabula, Ohio were the other award recipients honored. Congratulations, Sr. Jean!

Statue Replica Presented to Sisters

As part of a Christmas outing that included an organ recital in Magnificat Chapel, the sisters were presented a replica of the “When I was Sick” statue that Mercy Health St. Elizabeth Youngstown Hospital dedicated September 2022 to Covid-19 victims and caregivers. Gina Marinelli of the Mercy Health Foundation Mahoning Valley presented the statue during the December 15 event and Paul Homick, President/CEO of the

foundation, played a concert for the sisters in attendance. The statue is currently on display at the Villa in the conference center lobby.





One Villa One Vision Brings Campus Together

The One Villa One Vision (OVOV) initiative begun by Sr. Toby Lardie during her time serving as Pastoral Leader continues to bring sisters, staff, and apartment residents together. The OVOV committee organizes a variety of activities throughout the year that allow everyone on the Villa campus to get to know one another and create a community. Recent activities have included decorating ornaments for the OVOV Christmas tree, a build-your-own hot chocolate bar with time for fellowship, prayer services, and a celebration to welcome spring. The committee also plans and hosts the annual campus Christmas party.

Upcoming Programs

The following programs are provided by Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center (VMESC). Please call 724-964-8886 for more information or visit www.vmesc.org. Additional programs and speaker information can be found on the VMESC website. Visit vmesc.org and sign up for our e-mail list to receive information about all upcoming offerings.

Villa Maria-thon 5K Run/2 Mile Walk

Date: June 3

Our Annual 5K event is our major fundraiser that provides assistance for all VMESC adult and youth programs. This event will take place rain or shine. Can't join us in person? You can still participate with our virtual option!



Healed and Whole Forever: Cultivating a Sense of Place in a Time of Loss

Presented by *Douglas E. Christie, Ph.D.*

Date: June 16-18

This workshop will help participants consider what it means to cultivate a deeper sense of place and a stronger ethical commitment to caring for the places we love.

The Long, Loving Look: A Guided Immersion in Prayer

Presented by *Sr. Cheryl Rose, HM*

Date: July 23-28

This longer Empty Bowl retreat will allow going deep in the practice of prayer, as well as exploring a variety of ways to encounter the Holy.

The Neuroscience and Spirituality of Self-Compassion: Caring for Ourselves in Unsettling Times

Presented by: *Anne Kertz Kernion*

Dates: August 25-27

This retreat will draw upon recent findings in neuroscience and psychology, illuminating self-care and spiritual practices that nurture gentleness, kindness and patience towards ourselves. These practices help us manage grief, uncertainty, and daily challenges.

Directed Retreats:

June 18-25 | September 10-17 | October 13-15

Enter the Chaos: Engage the Differences to Make a Difference

Presented by *Vernice Solimar, Ph.D. and Sr. Nancy Sylvester, IHM*

Dates: September 21-24

This conference is a reflective four-day process grounded in transformative power of contemplation. It provides a framework to understand your role in the evolutionary journey and how our consciousness develops.

Art Retreats

Mandala, Exploring the Sacred Circle

Presented by *Sr. Paulette Kirschensteiner, HM*

Date: July 9-13

Zentangle

Presented by *Sr. Paulette Kirschensteiner, HM*

Date: September 16

Guided Labyrinth Walks

Facilitated by *Sr. Janet Burkhart, HM & Sr. Barbara O'Donnell, HM*

Dates:

Wednesdays – June 21, July 19, August 16 from 6:30-8:30pm
Sunday – September 17 from 2-4pm

Save the Date for these upcoming programs in Fall/Winter 2023:

The Sound of Stillness

Presented by *Nicole Schoeppner, VSTP*

Date: October 7

How Evolution is Changing our Faith in the 21st Century (VIRTUAL)

Presented by *Diarmuid O'Murchu*

Dates: November 3-5

In Loving Memory

Sister Monica Boles, formerly Sr. Mary Austin, entered eternal life on December 17, 2022, at age 92. An educator, she ministered for 48 years in classrooms in Akron, Ashtabula, Canton, and Cleveland. Sr. Monica served as a pastoral minister at White Pond Villa, Akron and St. Colette, Brunswick, and was a computer instructor in the Business Technology Division at the University of Akron. Over the years she volunteered as an ombudsman for nursing homes in the Akron area. Coming from a musical family she played clarinet and sax with the Akron-based Moonlight Serenaders for over 10 years until she was well into her 80s. She retired to Villa Maria Community Center in 2016 where she joined her Humility of Mary sisters in the ministry of prayer and of faith-filled presence until her death. She is survived by her sisters in the Humility of Mary Congregation and her nieces and nephews and their families. She was preceded in death by her parents, Patrick & Mary (Eisenzimmer) Boles; and her brothers, Edward, Russell, and John (Jack) Boles.



Memorial contributions may be sent to
Sisters of the Humility of Mary, Development Office, PO Box 534, Villa Maria PA 16155

The Gift of a Lifetime

Help us to continue providing more abundant life for God's people by including the Sisters of the Humility of Mary in your will. To receive your free personal finance planner and information on the Heritage Society, please return the form below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

- Please send my personal finance planner and information on how I can become a member of the Heritage Society
- I have already included the Sisters in my will.

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Sisters of the Humility of Mary

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What's Happening At Villa Maria

Greenhouse: Now Open

Hanging Baskets

Patio Flower Pots • Geraniums

New Guinea Impatiens

Gerber Daisies • Pansies

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Zinnias • Perennial Flowers

Certified Organic Vegetable &
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Farm Market:

Opens Mid-Late June

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Certified Organic seasonal produce, including

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Tomatoes • Eggplant • Broccoli • & More

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