

Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania

journeys



2021
the year of
st joseph

development
report

ssjerie.org





SISTERS OF
ST. JOSEPH
OF NORTHWESTERN
PENNSYLVANIA

Connecting with God ✚ Connecting with You

our mission

The mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania, SSJ agrégées, and associates, is to unite all people with one another and with God by responding to the ever-changing needs of the world and serving the neighbor without distinction.

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message from leadership

As this “Year of St. Joseph”* continues to unfold, we find ourselves reflecting on Joseph as a man of great generosity. Unfortunately, there is little written about Joseph in scripture, but much we can infer.

Responding to an angel’s request, Joseph, like Mary, said “yes.” Joseph’s generous “yes” changed his world.

Joseph took Mary as his wife with the generous promise that he would care for her and her unborn child. But, not knowing what he would encounter, Joseph selflessly went to Egypt, not for himself, but to protect Mary and the child, Jesus.

A carpenter by trade, Joseph carefully taught these skills to Jesus, and likely shared them graciously with the people of Nazareth.

As stated in the Constitutions of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania: *“Our name, Sisters of St. Joseph, expresses our resolve to serve others with loving care and concern as Joseph served Jesus and Mary.”*

Generosity aptly describes our patron, St. Joseph, and the many people who support us in carrying out his legacy.

Generous Joseph, teach us to give as you did and not to consider the cost.

Blessings and peace,

SSJ Leadership

Mary Drexler, SSJ

Carol Morehouse, SSJ

Phyllis McCracken, SSJ



*SSJ Leadership: (L to R)
Sisters Carol Morehouse,
Mary Drexler,
and Phyllis McCracken*

*Pope Francis declared December 8, 2020, through December 8, 2021, to be a Year of St. Joseph.

On the cover: In 2006, this statue of St. Joseph the Worker, a gift from the family of Sister Mary Alice Reed, was placed on the SSJ grounds in memory of their parents and other deceased family members. Several items were placed in its base including the Sisters of St. Joseph Constitutions, a prayer to St. Joseph, and a St. Joseph medal from the 100th anniversary of the Sisters of St. Joseph in the Diocese of Erie.



When you walk into church, you see a statue of St. Joseph among the others. Since I was a child, up until this day, I have always loved and been fascinated by statues—the colors, sizes, styles, designs, and symbols. However, the real Joseph of Nazareth was no statue. He was a man of action. As revealed in Matthew's Gospel, once he heard the angel's words in his dreams, he did not hesitate. He acted. His mantle was work, his spirituality an active contemplation. Hearing the message, he acted on it and focused on it. His work was linked to his mission—physical labor and protection of his wife and son. This was his charge.

And those who follow Joseph's footsteps to follow the way of his son, Jesus, do the same.

The Sisters of St. Joseph have taken up his name to walk closely in the path of Jesus. Like Joseph, they are active contemplatives helping the good neighbor with schools, hospitals, clinics, shelters, food banks,

like joseph, we're called to act

**by Jim Bird, Chair, Sisters of St. Joseph
Mission & Ministries Foundation**



advocacy, being a voice, marching, standing, sharing, and laughing. You may know them in your life. I do. They are Sr. Ann Louis, Sr. Mary Rita, Sr. Michelle, Sr. Mary Sarah, Sr. Rose Irma, Sr. Theresa, Sr. James Francis, Sr. Mary Alice, and a litany of others, past and present.

Today, I am humbled to serve as chair of the Sisters of St. Joseph Mission & Ministries Foundation. I work side-by-side with the great women who helped educate and form me and other lay people who share the call to action for the good of the dear neighbor.

On behalf of the SSJ Mission & Ministries Foundation, let me thank all of you who have supported the Sisters and their work during the past year.

And those who follow Joseph's
footsteps to follow the way of
his son, Jesus, do the same.

And here is my request—please help us continue the work. Or if you haven't already, please join us. When you act—through prayer, volunteering, or giving—you advance the sisters' mission, as we follow the way of Jesus Christ.

Remember, we're not statues—we're made for action! 

the call continues

what more can we do?

by Betsy Wiest, SSJ Social Justice Coordinator

In 2016, Pope Francis published *Laudato Si: On Care For Our Common Home*, in which he asked all of us to work on caring for our brothers and sisters and caring for the home we share – the earth. This responsibility, he said, is “essential to a life of virtue.” (LS 217)

In conjunction with the 5th anniversary of *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis is issuing a Call to Action with The Laudato Si Action Platform, a worldwide collaboration of Catholic organizations and “all men and women of goodwill” (LS 3). This program challenges institutions and individuals to make a public commitment and begin a 7-year journey to sustainability in the spirit of *Laudato Si*.

The Laudato Si Action Platform, which will be launched in stages throughout 2021 and 2022, is designed to help various community segments identify what they can do and the commitment they can make. The program offers supports for the following groups:

- Families – all families and individuals
- Parishes and Dioceses - parishes, dioceses, archdioceses, and episcopal conferences
- Educational Institutions - primary and secondary schools, universities, and other centers of education
- Healthcare Institutions - hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare centers

- Organizations and groups - lay movements, communities, NGOs, foundations, and communication centers
- Economic Sector - workers and businesses, farms, and co-operatives
- Religious - religious orders, provinces, and communities

Some elements of the program are:

- Plans to determine your response and what you are going to do
- A process-oriented approach that responds to the charism of your community or family—not everyone will be doing the same thing.
- Guidance on actions that will help build a better future
- Recognition of your progress
- Resources to help you take action
- Webinars on actions and events
- Ways to connect directly with other participants
- Stories of people who are taking action

WHAT WILL THE SISTERS DO?

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania are considering several elements as part of their commitment. Here are some things already happening:

- LED lighting was installed in the SSJ Community Living Center (CLC) and Administration Building.
- The kitchen staff purchases produce grown at local farms and uses the harvests from several vegetable gardens planted and maintained by the Sisters.
- The Sisters are participating in the 2030 initiative by joining with community partners to reduce everyone’s carbon footprint by 50% by the year 2030.

No action is insignificant— everything helps ensure a better home for future generations. Together, we can make a difference.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Individually, with your family or your organization, check out the available resources at laudatosiactionplatform.org and then make your commitment.



masks on, sleeves rolled up

by Dotty Hanna, Executive Director,
SSJ Mission & Ministries Foundation

"Eyes open, ears attentive, spirit alert, sleeves rolled up..." This description, expressed by Father Marius Nepper, SJ, paints a picture of a Sister of St. Joseph.

It also aptly describes the women and men who worked alongside the Sisters during the COVID crisis at the SSJ Neighborhood Network.

"When news of the state-wide shutdown hit, we definitely rolled up our sleeves and went right to work," explained Heather Caspar, executive director of the Neighborhood Network.

"We immediately pivoted all of our efforts to provide emergency food and supplies to anyone and everyone within our service area."

For the health and safety of their volunteer force, the Neighborhood Network shifted all responsibilities to its staff – assigning new roles with 100 percent focus on meeting immediate needs. As other nearby organizations suspended services, the Neighborhood Network staff stepped up to continue their work, as well.

"We stepped in when two neighborhood churches suspended their food bank operations, and Second Harvest Food Bank requested our assistance with distribution of non-perishable food boxes," Caspar explained.

"In just five months, we saw more than 1,500 neighbors arrive for food, cleaning, and hygiene

supplies. That's the number we typically see in a full year."

In addition to providing boxes of food and supplies, the Neighborhood Network continued to serve meals at its St. Paul's Soup Kitchen.

"For the first six weeks, the staff prepared and packaged individual meals. Then, when grant support became available, we were able to partner with neighborhood businesses and caterers, which was good for all of us – the neighbors, the businesses, and our staff."

To keep everyone safe, all meals were, and still are, served in to-go containers and handed out curbside.


With safety modifications in place, the network's Little Italy Farmers Market continued to provide fresh produce to more than 3,500 area residents.

"It was such a blessing – especially for our youth gardeners – that we could find a safe way to keep the gardens growing and the Farmers Market in place," Caspar said.

"Looking back, I'm still in awe at the resilience of our neighbors, the creativity and commitment of our staff, and the generosity of donors – especially granting organizations like the Sisters of St. Joseph Mission & Ministries Foundation. When we needed it most, these funders opened their purse strings and gave us the flexibility to do what was needed most."

According to Caspar, expenses for the soup kitchen, food pantry and emergency supply distributions jumped to 20 times their normal rate within the first four months. Monthly costs for food and household supplies remain 50 percent higher than pre-pandemic levels.



"Only time will tell what our new normal will look like," Caspar added. "But we know this—when everyone rolls up their sleeves and pitches in, we can make amazing things happen." 

2020 grants aid in covid response

Six grants – totaling \$150,000 – were awarded by the SSJ Mission & Ministries Foundation in 2020.

In response to the COVID crisis, the Foundation immediately changed its grant process to ensure that the heightened needs of the area's most vulnerable were met. Specifically, the Foundation board voted to award 100 percent of the funds requested by each applicant, stipulating that the dollars be used to ease the burden of the pandemic on the elderly, the homeless and the disadvantaged.

Recipients of 2020 grants were Erie DAWN, Saint Mary's Home of Erie, SSJ Neighborhood Network, St. James Haven (Meadville), St. Patrick's Haven and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania.

saint mary's commitment to erie continues

by Allen Bonace, President/CEO
Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge

The sale of **Saint Mary's East** has raised awareness in our community that there is more to Saint Mary's Home of Erie than the eastside facility alone. **Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge** and the **Carriage Homes at Asbury Ridge** now form the successful and growing core of Saint Mary's service to Erie.

A widening gap between the cost of providing the high-quality care for which Saint Mary's is known and the reimbursement for that care, as provided at Saint Mary's East, made the sale necessary. Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge, however, has a financial model that presents a stronger, healthier picture for the future.

With the sale of Saint Mary's East, the corporate offices of Saint Mary's Home have been relocated to a newly purchased building at 1781 West 26th Street. Formerly a physician's office, the location was chosen because of its proximity to Asbury Ridge and because the facilities required only modest updating and renovation. When you travel West 26th Street, you'll see the Saint Mary's Home of Erie name displayed proudly at these new offices just east of I-79.

Looking ahead, Saint Mary's is now pursuing permits and approvals to build more Carriage

Homes at Asbury Ridge. Watch for news as plans develop. Throughout this transition and planning for the future, Saint Mary's Home of Erie remains grateful for the sponsorship and support of the Sisters of St. Joseph, who had the vision to establish this ministry nearly 140 years ago.



ssj unity award

As founders of **Villa Maria Academy** in 1892, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania present the **Unity Award** each year to an outstanding Villa Maria Academy senior. The Unity Award is given to a student who best exemplifies living the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph: *unity of neighbor with neighbor and neighbor with God*. Nominations are submitted by VMA faculty and staff. **Sr. Mary Drexler** presented this year's Unity Award to Kelly McKnight.

Sister Mary Drexler (r)
presenting Kelly McKnight
with this year's
Unity Award



12-year-old Audrey Wetterau, shown with a big pile of donated socks!

socks with a mission

Audrey Wetterau, a 12-year-old student from Pittsburgh, began collecting socks for the homeless two years ago. Her non-profit, **Socks With a Mission**, recently donated several boxes of socks for the men at **St. Patrick's Haven**. Audrey's mother, Amy, made the trip from Pittsburgh to Erie to deliver the socks. Audrey and Socks With a Mission are our newest Haven Angels.

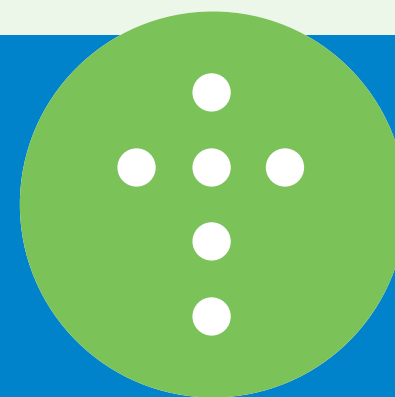
Audrey's compassion and hard work are helping make the road our guests are walking a little easier!



save the date!

Saint Mary's Follies, Night Among the Stars, will return **September 9, 2021**, at the **Bayfront Convention Center**. Attendees will delight in complimentary cocktails, an elegant sit-down dinner, and entertainment inspired by Frank Sinatra. A poignant and inspirational ceremony honoring local individuals with an **Ageless Remarkable Erieite Award** concludes the evening. The proceeds from all ticket sales, sponsorships, and donations make a difference for today's seniors benefiting from the **James E. Mantyla Benevolent Care Fund** at **Saint Mary's!** For more information, visit www.stmaryshome.org.

we remember deaths



Sisters

Mary Arlene Menz, SSJ
March 19, 2020

Ann Loretta Urmann, SSJ
July 18, 2020

Rose Anne Fedorko, Ph.D., SSJ
August 8, 2020

Agnes Marie Hughes, SSJ
October 3, 2020

Mary Joan Beauseigneur, SSJ
October 4, 2020

Joyce Lowrey, SSJ
December 7, 2020

Mary Kay McNelis, SSJ
December 20, 2020

Kathleen Kirsch, SSJ
March 25, 2021

Associates

Adrienne M. Ward
January 4, 2020

Tish Hosick
May 2, 2020

Norman Schlosser
June 10, 2020

Elizabeth (Betty) Zehner
September 28, 2020

Arlene Barlekoff
March 31, 2021

Mary Grace DeGeorge
April 14, 2021

Susan Grettler
April 25, 2021

Yvonne Gersims
June 20, 2021

For sisters' obituaries, visit www.ssjerie.org

immigration and human trafficking

Contact your **congressmembers** and urge them to address the link between immigration policies and human trafficking. When people can't feed themselves or live in an area where they are not safe, they have a right to migrate. Because of the climate change in **Central America**, farms are failing, and people are going hungry. Unfortunately, our dysfunctional immigration policies are putting those who seek our help at increased risk. Jesus tells us, "Whatsoever you do to the least of these, you do unto me." We need to help impoverished nations become self-sufficient so their people won't feel a need to leave their homes. We must also fix our broken immigration system to welcome those who, like our ancestors, came to our shores seeking a better life. Call the Capitol switchboard at **202-224-3121** to reach your congressmembers.

let's work together to reach herd immunity

Toni Gromacki and **Sherrai Holland** from **Community Health Net (CHN)** in **Erie** provided the Moderna COVID vaccine to guests at **St. Patrick's Haven** who opted to receive it. CHN has partnered with St. Patrick's Haven to help our guests stay safe and healthy during the pandemic. Help us make COVID a bad memory and get your



Toni Gromacki and Sherrai Holland from Community Health Net (CHN) in Erie giving the vaccine at St. Patrick's Haven

shot today. Check with your local pharmacy, as many are offering the shots on a walk-in basis.

ssjnn gala

Thanks to our many supporters, the 14th annual—and first virtual—**SSJNN Gala** was a great success! The live portion of the evening was tremendous thanks to volunteers **Raychel Adiutori** as emcee, and **Michael Malthaner**, who played original tunes and teasers for next year's Guess That Tune game. We are grateful to have had the event, albeit virtually, and look forward to being in person on **May 7, 2022**.



housing program

Padma Rai, the owner of **Annapurna Kitchen**, graciously volunteered with the **SSJ Neighborhood Network** to record cleaning lessons in Nepalese for neighbors in our housing programs. These recordings will assist residents with standards and a schedule for maintaining their homes. Another family recently graduated from the **Genesis** homeownership mentoring program and purchased their first home in **Erie's Little Italy**. We are grateful to still have them as neighbors and to see them realize their dream.



gardens and farmers market

Our neighborhood teens have been working hard with wonderful garden volunteers to beautify oases in the SSJNN neighborhood and get ready for the farmers' market. **Allegheny College** intern **Lauren Schrock** created this beautiful photo prop sign for the market.



CELEBRATE!

Sister Jubilarians

75 years

Lucille DeStefano, SSJ

70 years

Mary Carol Hoke, SSJ

Maria Onuffer, SSJ

Barbara Ann Zakutney, SSJ

60 years

Michele Healy, SSJ

Moria Sullivan, SSJ

50 years

Claudia Dombrowski, SSJ

Phyllis McCracken, SSJ

Associate Anniversaries

35 years

Leota Derby

30 years

Margaret Chrymko

Jennifer King

Dolores Miller

25 years

Patty Fronzaglia

Jack Martin

Sheila Martin

Arlen Twerdok

20 years

Linda Kuhn

Stephen Kuhn

Thelma Manendo

Mark McNerney

15 years

Betty Chess

Irene Danko

Brenda Desser

Dotty Hanna

Carol Hermann

Rita Lyle

Patricia Mayer

Lucille Sitzler

Jan Staszewski

Toni Stebell

10 years

Carol Dorr

George Dufala

Jon Fuhrman

Mary Fuhrman

Eileen McLaughlin

Judy Pratt

Rose Ronzitti

Rosemarie Schauf

Rhonda Sharie

Charlotte Sheldon

Harold Sheldon

Sue Ann Wisniewski

5 years

Francine Ballard

Sheila Causgrove

Cindy Ferber

Sandy Filippi

Marjorie Fischer

Rosemari Graham

Mary Ann Larimer

Barbara Noonan

Lewis Nordin

Connie Pellerite

Mary Schmidt

Joanne Sprickman

Mary Yochim

Employee Anniversaries

20 years

Cynthia Olesky

15 years

Cynthia Polesnak

5 years

Janice Barron

Marcia Calabrese

Mary Fromknecht, SSJ

Susan Hoag

Sheila Mack

Jessica Perez

Adriene Robinson



welcome new foundation board members and staff



Eric Consiglio, a principal and president of Loesel-Schaaf Insurance Agency, was elected to the SSJ Mission & Ministries Foundation Board in April 2021. For the past 26 years, Eric has managed fully insured and self-funded employee benefit accounts at Loesel-Schaaf.

Eric is a graduate of West Virginia University with a Bachelor of Science degree in finance. A lifelong resident of Erie, Eric has served on several local non-profit boards and committees, including the Saint Vincent Board of Corporators, the Salvation Army Advisory Board and the St. Jude Athletic Board. In his spare time, he enjoys cycling and spending time with his family.




Also elected to the SSJ Mission & Ministries Board in April is **Brittany Taylor**, a principal and senior financial advisor with HBKS® Wealth Advisors. She is passionate about her work – developing investment and wealth protection plans that help individuals and families achieve their financial goals. Brittany started with HBKS® Wealth Advisors in 2001 and serves clients in many states from her office in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Brittany earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in business management and finance from Mercyhurst University. Her professional education includes the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ designation. She is a member of the United Way Young Leadership Society and the Holy Cross Church Finance Committee.



In July, **Cathy Fresch** joined the SSJ Mission & Ministries Foundation as its first Campaign Manager/Major Gift Officer. Cathy comes to the Foundation with 26 years of experience in advancement/fundraising – three years as Development Coordinator at Erie Day School and 23 years as Director of Alumni Services and Director of Development at Gannon University.

Cathy holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in general sciences from Hiram College and a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Thomas Jefferson University. After an 18-year career in healthcare, she found her second calling helping organizations advance their missions through development and fundraising.

Cathy has volunteered for countless organizations throughout the area, including serving on the boards of Erie Homes for Children and Adults, Junior League of Erie and the Erie Area Fund for the Arts. 

SSJ Mission & Ministries Foundation Board

James Bird	Chair
Scott Whalen	Vice Chair
Robert Cox	Secretary/ Treasurer

Eric Consiglio
Sr. Mary Drexler, SSJ
Sr. Mary Herrmann, SSJ
William Hilbert Jr.
Sr. Catherine Manning, SSJ
Sr. Phyllis McCracken, SSJ
Tina Mengine
Sr. Carol Morehouse, SSJ
Deb Seng
Cynthia Stone
Brittany Taylor

SSJ Mission & Ministries Staff

Dotty Hanna	Executive Director
Cathy Fresch	Campaign Manager/Major Gift Officer
Carol Hermann	Development Associate
Carleen Onuschak	Staff Accountant


Welcome Eric, Brittany and Cathy!

hope changes everything

We've all had moments or even seasons when things seemed hopeless. But, looking back, we know what a gift it was when the light dawned and our hope was renewed.

Now imagine living most of your life with little or no hope—worn down by loss, loneliness, rejection, limited opportunities, or other impossible situations. Unfortunately, too many of our neighbors face these challenges daily. Especially now, in the wake of this most challenging time.

So, where do we begin? How can we bless others with radical, life-changing hope?

We believe that hope is one of the greatest gifts of our ministries. It's a glimpse of what's possible and the expectation of greater things. When we build community and revitalize neighborhoods, we give hope. When we feed the hungry and house the homeless, we give hope. When we welcome the immigrant or reach out to the lonely, the anxious, and the marginalized, we give hope. 



everyone can help

Reach out, lend an ear, a shoulder to cry on, or a hand up. Volunteer, make a gift, or say a prayer. Whatever the means, we all have the power to spread hope. And hope changes everything.

As hope returns and our lives return to normal—or a new normal—let's not forget those who struggled before and will struggle even in the coming months.

If you are able, please consider a gift of hope to the Sisters of St. Joseph Mission & Ministries Foundation. With your help, we can and will spread hope to our dear neighbors who need it most.

To make a gift, use the enclosed envelope or donate online at ssjerie.org.

with gratitude



In a typical year, we acknowledge our generous donors by name and by the initiatives they supported.

But 2020 was not a typical year. Extraordinary needs were met with extraordinary giving in 2020 and, for that, we are sincerely grateful. Due to this outpouring of support, we are acknowledging all donors by name only. Listing all donations by area of giving would take many more pages and many more dollars in printing and mailing costs. And we're sure you'd rather we spend all we can serving the dear neighbor. Whether you supported one ministry area or several, we are truly thankful. You made radical love and radical hope possible during a very radical year.

2020 benefactors

Vickie and Don Abbott

in memory of Carol Quinn Portenier

Rebecca and Evan Adair

Doris Adams

in memory of John R. Adams

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in memory of Marie J. Pears

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in memory of Dominica and Larry Adiutori Sr.

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in memory of John Anselmo

in memory of Mary Anselmo, Barbara Anselmo and Nancy Frisino

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in memory of Fred Anthony

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in honor of Jim and Mary Bach's 40th wedding anniversary

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in honor of Ann Bach

Dolores Bachmaier

in memory of Bachmaier and Drexler family members

Ann and Gregory Badach

in honor of all the Sisters of St. Joseph who work tirelessly for others

The Bailey family

Sharon* and Douglas Baird

*in memory of Sr. Mary Francis Becker, SSJ
in memory of Sr. Marie Claire Kearney, SSJ*

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in memory of Gordon Baker

Valerie and Mark Baker

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in memory of Sr. Patricia

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in memory of George Banister, Tony Banister and Jacob Pakulski

Rose Marie Banister

Nancy and Richard Baniszewski

Mary and Robert Baniszewski

in memory of Marian C. D'Aurora

Helen Baran

Marybeth Baran

Bridget and John Barber

*in honor of the Sisters of St. Joseph
in honor of all seven of the Power girls, VMA grads*

Gail and Raymond Barber

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in memory of Barickman and Hoke family members

Roberta Barilla

in memory of Annabelle and George Buckel

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in memory of John Barnhart

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Mary Barrett

Barb and Bill Barthelmes

Mary Jo and Frederick Bartnicki

Barbara Bauda

*in honor of Sr. Ricarda Vincent, SSJ
in memory of Elizabeth and Russell Bauda
in honor of all the Sisters of St. Joseph who provided me with an excellent education*

Nancie and Gary Bauschard

in memory of Msgr. Ernest Daly

Rev. John Beal

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in memory of Ralph Whitney

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Community Foundation

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in memory of Carol Mando

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in memory of those who have died from the corona virus and in honor of all healthcare workers

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in memory of Eleanor and Matt Belovarac

Ihor Bemko

Barb Benacci

in memory of Ann and Paul Titko

Alfred Benedict

in honor of Sr. Jean Baptiste DiLuzio, SSJ

Nancy Benedict

in memory of Al Benedict

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in memory of Mary Brzenski and in honor of James, John and Ronald in honor of Holly, Grace, Lexi and Sophie Bennardi

in memory of Michael Anthony Bennardi and in honor of all the Bennardi children and grandchildren

Kara Bennett-Van Dyke

Patricia and Donald Bennett

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in memory of Agnes Golphin Benson in honor of Margaret Eglinton

Edward Bensur

Mary* and Edward Bensur

in memory of the members of the Bensur, Wachner, Youschak and Fuller families

Valerie and James Berchtold

Janet Bergkessel

Rosemary Bernato

in memory of members of the Pavolino/Adams families, and the Bernato/Condrón/Rende families

Karlynn and Eugene Bernhard

Arnold Berquist

in memory of Michael Joseph Bergquist

Karen and John Berry

JoAnne and Jack Bertges/The Jack and JoAnne Bertges Fund of The San Francisco Foundation

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in memory of Larry Beveridge

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in memory of Rhea Weindorf and in honor of the Weindorf and Biedrzycki extended family

Cynthia and Ronald Bielanin

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in memory of Sr. Marcia Marie Dieteman, SSJ

Cynthia Billisits and

Larry W. Koppelman

Johanna and James Bindseil

in memory of Sr. Marie Celeste Bindseil, SSJ

Lawrence Bindseil

in memory of Janet Bindseil, Sr. Marie Celeste Bindseil, SSJ, and all deceased members of the Edwin Bindseil and Larry Bindseil families

Linda and G. Robert Binkley

Rev. Jack Bittler

in memory of Helen and Frank Bittler

Susan Black-Keim and Barry Weller

in memory of Jeffrey, Pat and Jim Keim

Lore Blair

in memory of Mother M. Aurelia A'Hearn, SSJ and in honor of the Blair and Felleisen families in memory of deceased residents at Highpoint Towers in memory of Mother M. Aurelia A'Hearn, SSJ and in honor of Fr. Larry Richards

Lynda Blair

in memory of Sr. Kathleen Blair, SSJ

Michele Blake

George Blakeslee

in honor of Sr. Jean Baptiste DiLuzio, SSJ

Philip Blasco

Robert Blazek

Susan Blecki

William Bleil

in honor of Sr. Jean Baptiste DiLuzio, SSJ

Blessed Sacrament School

Chris Bloomstine

Colleen and John Bloomstine

Monica and Mark Bloomstine

William Bloomstine

Debbie and Mark Bohrer

Pat Bojarski

Sally Bojarski

in memory of Irene Bojarski

Valerie Bolaris

in memory of Mary Ann and Charles Alessi

Brian Bolash

in memory of Audrey Vieira

Mary and William Bolash

in memory of Eleanor and Cassius Cook

Michael Bolents

Denise Bologna

Catherine Bon

in memory of Sarah and Alphonse Bon

Allen Bonace and Bill Gonda

Emily Bond

Sharon and Charles Bond

in memory of Audrey Vieira and in honor of Mrs. Ricarda Vincent, SSJ, and Sr. Phyllis Hilbert, SSJ

Janet and Joe Bondanella

in memory of Joseph and Viola Pomorski and John Bondanella and in honor of Grace Bondanella

C. Angela Bontempo

in memory of Angelina Karvelis in memory of John Thomas Perkowski

Elaine and Edward Bootes

Mary Anne Albaugh and Dennis Borczon

Kathleen and Edward Borgia

in honor of Sr. Mary Claire Kennedy, SSJ

Carole Borkowski

Sylvia and Gregory Bosner

Cynthia and Douglas Boucher

in memory of Sr. Mary Alice Reed, SSJ

Denise and John Bowers

in memory of Mary Ellen Bowers

Marilyn Bowers

in honor and memory of the living and deceased members of the McGrath family

Mary and Bernard Bowler

in memory of Mattie Lee Hart and in honor of Sr. Mary Herrmann, SSJ in memory of Lorraine Janice Bowler and in honor of Sr. Mary Herrmann, SSJ

Mary Elizabeth and Kevin Boxer

in memory of Sr. Hildegard Boxer, SSJ, and George Boxer

Daniel Brabender Jr.

Virginia Brabender

Diane and Randall Brace

in honor of Sr. Perpetua Dickant, SSJ

Elaine Brady

Margaret Braeger

Dennis Braendel

Braendel Painting & Services Inc.

Barbara Brairton

Tina and Stephen Branton

Constance Brereton

Mary Breyley

Mary Ellen Brice

Carolina Briffault

in honor of Sr. Millicent Zimmer, SSJ

Darlene Bristol

in memory of Helen Hamilton

Meg and John Britton

in memory of Ruth and Claire Merritt

Deacon Richard and Victoria Brogdon

in memory of Sr. Mary Kay McNelis, SSJ

Angela and Bryan Brooks

in memory of Carol Mando

Donna Brooks

Deacon John and Kathleen Brophy

in memory of Deacon David Pratt

Mary Ann Brothers

Cindy Brown

Laura and Larry Brown

in memory of Josephine Ciotti

Lawrence Brown

Mary Ellen Brown

Robert F. Brown

Roseanne Brown

Laura and Steve Brown

in memory of deceased family members and in honor of Sr. Phyllis Hilbert, SSJ

Barbara Brozovic

Kathleen Bruffett

in memory of Sr. Mary Margaret Balizet, SSJ

Andrew Bruno

in memory of Roberta A. Bruno

Kathleen and Robert Bruno

Barbara and David Bruschi

in memory of Helen and William Jungfleisch

*deceased

thanksgiving 2020

While most of the country is grilling hot dogs and enjoying the sunshine, we're already thinking about Thanksgiving.

Last year, the annual Sisters of St. Joseph Thanksgiving Dinner was served by delivery only. Due to the hardships imposed by COVID, we expected a bump in numbers. What actually happened was more than a bump. Our total number of meals served jumped from 800 to 1,100 and dollars raised to support the dinner set a new record – eclipsing \$72,000.

Thanks to all who made last year's Thanksgiving not only possible but an overwhelming success.



Our plans for this year are not quite complete. But, again, COVID and public health concerns will determine whether we offer in-person dining.

But this we know – for the 32nd consecutive year, the Sisters of St. Joseph will serve Thanksgiving meals to our dear neighbors in need. And with your help, we'll feed more, raise more and distribute more funds to fight hunger year-round.

To make an early gift to the 2021 SSJ Thanksgiving Fund, visit us at www.ssjerie.org.

Elizabeth Bucarelli

Marilyn and David Buckel

*in memory of David Buckel Jr. and Robert Buerger
in memory of Dave Buckel Jr. and Uncle Bob, and in honor of Elizabeth Stanfield*

Lorraine Bucklin

Carol and Jeffrey Buetikofer

Sherry and R.J. Bufalino

Cheri and Robert Bukala

Valerie Bukowski

Marija Buljubasic

Mary Bullock

in memory of Rose Gennuso

Noel Burgoyne

Kathleen Burke

Phyllis and Thomas Burke

Susan and Cornelius Burkell

Kathryn and Kevin Burns

Mary Ann and William Burns

in memory of my mother

Cheryl Buscemi

in memory of John Anthony Buscemi

Melissa and Mark Buseck

Diane Byrne

in memory of Verdecchia and Byrne family members

in memory of Tom Byrne, and William and Margaret Verdecchia

Marcia Calabrese

in memory of Esther and Casimer Pietrasiewicz

Mary Ann and Raymond Calabrese

in memory of Gilda Calabrese and in honor of Sr. Carmel Rojek, SSJ

Cynthia and John Calcagno

in memory of Berta Gonzalez

Judith Caldwell

Richard Caldwell, II

Elizabeth Calupca

in honor of Sr. Phyllis Hilbert, SSJ

Susan and David Calvano

Mary Kathleen and Rocco Camas

in memory of Camas and Donohue family members

Mary and Sean Candela

in memory of Sara Coyne

Maria Capocciama

in memory of Sr. Borgia Spires, SSJ

in memory of Sr. Gertrude Marie Peterson, SSJ

Lucy and Joseph Cappello

in memory of Angeline and Thomas Cappello

Rita Cappello

in honor of Sr. Ann Marie Cappello, SSJ

Darlene and Thomas Cappello

in memory of Angie and Tom Cappello, and Shirley and Ted Amendola

Margaret and Thomas Caputo

in honor of Sr. Catherine Manning, SSJ

Ann Marie Carbo

Rita and Francis Carducci

Joanne and Frank Cargioli

in memory of Betty Zehner

Joan Carideo

in memory of Audrey Vieira

Barbara Carino

in memory of deceased sisters who provided for educational needs in Elk County and at Villa Maria College

Joanne Carlburg

Ann Carlin*

David Carl

Michele and Carl Carlotti

Dorothy Carlson

Jessica and Justin Carlson

Valerie Carlson

John Carneval

Matthew Carneval

Jane Carney

Susan and James Carpenter

Mishelle Carrick

in memory of Robert L Arrowsmith

Linda and Michael Carroll
in honor of Marjorie Carroll

Marie and James Carroll

Beth and Matthew Casey
in memory of Robert L. Arrowsmith

Nancy and Robert Caskey

Heather and James Caspar

Gay Catania
in honor of the Sisters of St. Joseph

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie Inc.

Patricia and Terrence Cavanaugh

Sarah Cavicchio
in memory of Marian D'Aurora

Anthony Cerminara

Mary Beth Chabola

Maureen and James Chadwick

Barbara and Donald Chandley

Arlene Chaney and Jeanne Ryan

Sue Jean Chang and Bryan Schwartz
in memory of Monica Chang and in honor of Joanna and Brennen

Mary Jo Cherry
in memory of Sr. Joyce Lowrey, SSJ

Gail and Ronald Chimenti

Barbara and John Chism/The John and Barbara Chism Family Trust
in memory of Mary Rossi

Betty Jo Chitester

Dorothy Chohrach
in memory of Susan and Adam Chohrach family members

Marguerite and Edward Christy
in memory of Sr. Mary Thomas Downing, SSJ

Nancy and Greg Christy

Margaret Chrymko
in memory of Trudi and Horace Chrymko, Ron Miller and Cliff Elwood

Sylvia Chrzanowski
in memory of Betty Zehner

Teresa and David Churbock
in memory of Sr. Charlene Ende, SSJ

Rev. Vincent Cieslewicz

Teresa Cieslikowski

Hubert Cioccio

Doris Cipolla

Donna and Dario Cipriani

John Cipriani

Kathy Cirillo

Lynn and Jeffrey Clapp
in honor of VMA

Caitlin and Chris Clark

Cynthia Clark
in memory of Mary and James Clark

Bonnie and Edward Clark

Donna and Matthew Clark

Mary Jane and Roger Clark

Eilene Clemente

Kathleen Coates
in memory of Sr. Maura Ann O'Connor, SSJ

Mary Ann Cochran
in memory of Mildred and Anthony Thomas and in honor of Sr. Jude Marie Talerico, SSJ

Vienna Cocuzzi
in memory of Mario R. Cocuzzi in memory of Sr. Joyce Lowrey, SSJ

Christine and John Cole

Collegiate Academy Faculty Fund
in memory of Audrey Vieira

Margaret McMahon Collins

Rosemary and David Colonna
in memory of members of the Costa, Colonna and Ohmer families in memory of Jeanne Costa

Mary and William Colt

Charles Colvin
in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Colvin in memory of Francis Whalen Connalley and in honor of Sr. Patricia Whalen

Susan Colvin

Thomas Colvin

Lori and Tim Colvin

Martha Connelly
in memory of Joanne Torres and Carol Todd

Virginia Conrath

Considine Biebel & Company

Paul Considine

Debra and Eric Consiglio

Mary Ann and Patrick Consiglio

Ann Cook and Daniel Siivola

Jeannette Cook

Janet Coombes
in honor of Srs. Mary Rita Kuhn, SSJ, and Mary Arnold Tann, SSJ

Mary Cooper
in memory of John (Jack) Cooper

Michelle and Gregory Coppola

Mary Ann Corrigan-Davis
in honor of Sr. Phyllis DiFuccia, SSJ

Marjorie Corritore
in memory of Bob Corritore Sr.

Cathy and Romeo Corvino
in memory of Audrey Vieira

Madeline Corwin
in memory of Betty Rowand

Kristen and Matthew Costa

Kimberley and Christopher Coughlin
in memory of Damien Coughlin

Karyn and Daniel Coughlin

Judith Coughlin

Country Fair Inc.

Dana Courtine and Shawn Turoski/The Courtine-Turososki Charitable Fund
in memory of Sr. Dorinda Young, SSJ

Covenant Preschool
in memory of Joseph Nies

Marilyn Cox

Mary Ann Cox
in memory of Louis Cox and in honor of the Sisters of St. Joseph

Robert Cox

Eloise Cox
in memory of deceased family, friends, colleagues, students, poor souls, former teachers and professors and in honor of COVID first responders

Cathleen Craft
in memory of Sr. Margaret Joseph Mokes SSJ, and Mary Craft

Nikki Cragle
in honor of Sr. Jean Baptiste DiLuzio, SSJ

Marion Crawford

Joyce Crishock
in memory and in honor of the residents of Mercy Terrace in memory of Brother Richard Arters in honor of Sr. Maria Onuffer, SSJ in memory of Richard and Bruna Crishock

Mary Agnes and Raymond Crolli
in memory of Kathleen Peden

Crooked Creek Lane Association
in memory of Helen Hamilton

Christeanna and Joseph Cucuzza
in memory of Jeanne and Lou Cucuzza in memory of Maureen Ackerman

Robin and Patrick Cuneo
in memory of Sr. Mary Edmund Cuneo, SSJ

John Curtin

Joseph Cuzzola
in memory of the members of the Cuzzola family

Susan Cyphert

Shirley and Francis Czulewicz

Kathleen and Daniel Dahlkemper

Mary Ellen and Edward Dahlkemper

Susan Daley

Joy and Ronald Dalton
in memory of Lois Vosmus and Patty Eaton (Villa Class of '55)

Kathleen and James Dammeyer

Valerie and John Damond
in memory of Sr. Charlene Ende, SSJ

Carole and Ron Dankesreiter
in memory of Savilla and John Bohren

Therese and Joseph Dattalo
in honor of Sr. André Feulner, SSJ

Mary Daugherty
in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Hoke

Kathleen D'Aurora
in memory of Patricia Kukarsky Kreger

Mario D'Aurora
in memory of Marian D'Aurora

Cynthia and Richard Davis
in memory of Sr. Lawreace Antoun, SSJ, and in honor of Srs. Mary Claire Kennedy, SSJ, and Lucille DeStefano, SSJ

Jennifer and John Davis

Kathy Davis
in memory of my parents

Grace Ann DeCecco
in memory of Carmella DeSanto

Beth and Charles Deck

Lucia DePalma and Michael L. DeDad

Mary DeFabio
in honor of Sr. Mary Rose Romeo, SSJ

Jacqueline A. DeFazio
in memory of Yolanda and Jimmy DeFazio

Remy DeFonseya*

Judith and John Del Freo

Barbara and Arthur Delano

Sandra and Douglas DelPorto

Dale DeMarco

Patricia and Thomas Demas

Colleen and John DeMatteo

in memory of my parents

Janet and Paul Demjanenko

Amy and Craig Dennen

in honor of the Sisters of St. Joseph

Kitty and Thomas Denny

in memory of James J. Denny

Susan DePlatchett

*in honor of all the sisters who taught
at VME and VMA*

in honor of Sr. Eulalia Gravatte, SSJ

Loeta and Gerald Derby

in memory of Sr. Mary Regis Schrock, SSJ

Mary Hope and Paul DeSante

Mary and Joseph Desanti

Kathryn and Gary DeSantis

in memory of Camrie DeSantis

Maria DeSantis

Brenda and Dale Desser

in memory of Virginia Pacuraw

Angela DeStefano

in honor of Sr. Lucille DeStefano, SSJ

in memory of Susan DeStefano

in memory of Sr. Ann Loretta Urmann, SSJ

Mary Lee and Michael DeStefano

Rev. John Detisch

Diane DeVallance

Patricia and David Devine

in memory of Mary A. Mroz

Faith and Joseph Devlin

in honor of Sr. Marianne Stuckert, SSJ

Martha Devlin

Priscilla and Richard DiBacco

Mary DiBattista

Patricia DiBello

in memory of Joshua DiBello

Geraldine and James DiCarlo

Josephine Dickinson

*in memory of Loretta, Johnny, Tina
and Larry*

Norma Diem

Elaine and Frank DiFuccia

Gina and Joseph DiFuccia

in memory of Mary and Paul DiFuccia

Cynthia DiGangi

in memory of Michael DiGangi

Ginny and Dennis DiGello

in memory of Denise Marie DiGello

Raylene and Paul Dill

Roberta and Bob Dilley

in memory of Marian and Al Dilley

Rosemary and Anthony DiLuzio

in memory of Dorothy DiLuzio

Anthony DiLuzio Sr.

in memory of Dorothy DiLuzio

Nancy and Daniel DiLuzio

*in memory of the DiLuzio family
members and in honor of Sr. Jean
Baptiste DiLuzio, SSJ*

Patricia and Thomas DiLuzio

*in memory of Dorothy DiLuzio and in
honor of Anthony DiLuzio*

Kay Dimperio

Kathy and Anthony DiNicola

in honor of Eddie McCallion

Phyllis DiNicola

*in memory of Anita
Venesky-Albrewczynski*

Carol DiPanfilo

in memory of Henry DiPanfilo

Janet and Dominick DiPaolo

in memory of Patrick J. DiPaolo

Deborah DiPlacido



The past year was a challenge. But that didn't stop you. In fact, it inspired you to be even more generous, more involved and more loving to Erie area neighbors who need it most.

Heartfelt thanks to the many donors who have supported the Sisters of St. Joseph and our sponsored ministries on **Erie Gives Day**. This year, the congregation and SSJ sponsored ministries received **758 donations** for a total of **\$101,246** – and that's before the prorated match from The Erie Community Foundation and its generous partners.. That's a lot of love and a lot of support for the dear neighbors we serve.

On Erie Gives Day and throughout the year, it's friends like you who make our mission possible. With you, we can and will continue to build community in inner-city neighborhoods, mentor women and children, care for the

elderly, feed the hungry, shelter the homeless and advocate for social justice.

To all who supported us on Erie Gives Day 2021, we say "thank you, thank you."

If you missed Erie Gives Day, but would still like to make a gift to support our mission and ministries, visit us at ssjerie.org.

We are always grateful for your support – but we are especially grateful now, as we all work to meet the growing needs of our most vulnerable neighbors.

a heartfelt thank you!

Lois DiPlacido

in memory of Donald A. DiPlacido

Linda DiRienzo

in honor of Sue Ann Wisniewski

Ellen DiSanti**Elizabeth and Ernest DiSantis****Jeanne DiStefano****Amy Dittman**

in memory of Sr. Emilie Rose LeBoeuf, SSJ

in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Herzing

Kimberly Ditz

in memory of Sr. Mary Rose Rossiter, SSJ, and in honor of Sr. Josette Marie Gocella, SSJ

Ann and Ronald DiVecchio

in memory of Carmella DeSanto

in memory of Mertie Kibler

Clifford Dobry

in memory of Monica and Walter Dobry

Laurel Dohanic**James Dolak****Ruth and Thomas Dombrowski**

in memory of Stephanie Malik and Raymond Dombrowski

Janice and Larry Donaldson

in memory of Sr. Helen Mary Donaldson, SSJ, and in honor of Sr. James Francis Mulligan, SSJ

Barbara Donato**Nancy and Charles Donnelly**

in memory of Sr. Ann Loretta Urmann, SSJ

in memory of Sr. Rose Anne Fedorko, SSJ

in memory of Sr. Agnes Marie Hughes, SSJ

in memory of Sr. Mary Joan

Beauseigneur, SSJ

in memory of Sr. Joyce Lowrey, SSJ

in memory of Sr. Mary Kay McNelis, SSJ

Karen D'Onofrio

in memory of Sr. Joseph John McDonald, SSJ, and in honor of Sr. Mary Claire Kennedy, SSJ

Barbara Dougherty**Linda Dougherty****William Douglas****Shirley Dovichow**

in honor of Sr. Millicent Zimmer, SSJ

in honor of the retired Sisters of St. Joseph

Karen and Joseph Downing

in memory of Srs. Mary Agnes Claire Krepcho, SSJ, and Mary Thomas Downing, SSJ

Mary Ellen Downing

in memory of James, Margaret and Jean Downing

Carol Doyle**Susan and Stephen Drabant****Martin Drabic****Debra Dragovan****James Drane****Audrey Draszkiwicz**

in memory of Audrey Vieira

Lisa and Philip Dregalla

in memory of Fr. Charles Drexler

Charmaine and Arthur Drexler

in honor of Sr. Mary Drexler, SSJ

Lucille Drexler and Jerry Erdely

in memory of Charles Drexler

Sr. Mary Drexler, SSJ

on behalf of 1st graders

Susan and Michael Drexler**Sarah and Thomas Drexler**

in memory of Sr. Joyce Lowrey, SSJ

Anne Jane and Stephen Drexler**Ruth Droppleman**

in memory of Sr. John Frances Aiello, SSJ, and in honor of Srs. Barbara Ann Vavreck, SSJ, and Barbara Ann Zakutney, SSJ

Therese and Michael Duckett

in memory of Thomas G. Berdis Sr.

George Dudas**Diane Dudzinski****Cynthia Duell**

in memory of Kelly Duell

Helen Grace Dugan**Linda and David Dulabon****Mary Duncan**

in memory of Mary L. Duncan and James G. Duncan

Patricia Dunford and Peter Dunford**Jean and Charles Dunkle**

in memory of Srs. Joseph John McDonald, SSJ, and Rose Ann Fedorko, SSJ and in honor of Sr. Dorothy Wilwohl, SSJ, and Sr. Michelle Wilwohl, OSB in memory of Sr. Rose Anne Fedorko, SSJ

Michael Dunlavey**Nancy and Hugo Dunn**

in memory of Sr. Mary Ellen Dwyer, SSJ

Ann Marie Duquette**Janice Durney****Joan Dutchcot****Carol and George Dutzak**

in memory of Mary Jane Deck and in honor of the Sisters of St. Joseph who played such an important part in my family's life

The Al & Mary Duval Fund #1 of The Erie Community Foundation**Mary Dwyer****Ear Nose & Throat Specialists of Northwestern PA****Michelle and Stephen Easley****M. Jane Eaves****Lucille and Thomas Eberlein****Mary Eckert****Lori and William Edmondson****Diane and Andrew Edwards****Kelly and Demaris Edwards**

in memory of Margaret Wiertel

Maria and Christopher Ehrman**Carolyn and John Ehrman**

in memory of Mildred and Bob Ehrman and in honor of Sr. Catherine Manning, SSJ

Nancy and David Eichelsdorfer**Cherrie and Ronald Elekes**

in memory of Srs. Callista Wright, SSJ, Celine Rinderle, SSJ, and Fr. Sperry

Gayle Elmer

in memory of Rose Gennuso

JoAnn Elwell

in memory and in honor of all the Sisters of St. Joseph

Patricia and Edward* Emery**Judith Emling****Kathryn Emling****Cherri Engell****Barbara English****Penny Enroth****Adele and Tony Erdely****Amy Erdely****The Erie Community Foundation**

matching gift on behalf of Patricia Bojarski

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Erie School Administrators Association

in memory of Audrey Vieira

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Barbara Ertl**Beth and Steve Euliano****Geraldine Extein**

in memory of Sr. Caroline Extein, SSJ

Elaine and Gerald Fagley**Rose and John Fairman****Fairview Garden Club****Stephen Falk**

in memory of "Rainbow" Joe and Larry in honor of Sr. James Francis Mulligan, SSJ

Anna Marie Faraglia

in memory of Audrey Vieira

Beth Farbotnik**Clare Farrell**

in memory of Clare M. Morehouse and in honor of Sr. Carol Morehouse, SSJ

Martin Farrell**Lisa and Mark Fatica**

in memory of Helen Hamilton

Katherine and James Fatter**Christine Fedorko****Francis Fedorko**

in memory of Sr. Rose Anne Fedorko, SSJ

John Fedorko**Joseph Fedorko**

in honor of Sr. Roseanne Fedorko, SSJ

Paul Fedorko

in memory of Sr. Rose Ann Fedorko, SSJ

Jeanne Fedorkova

in memory of Sr. Rose Anne Fedorko, SSJ

Al Fehl

in memory of Mark Fehl

Polly Feidler**Barb and Alan Felix****Jeffrey Felix****Christine and Russell Felix**

in memory of Sr. Marcella Dugan, SSJ and in honor of Sr. Barbara Ann Zakutney, SSJ

Joan Fels

*in memory of Josephine and
Mike Luciano*

Debra Fenner

Anastasia and Robert Fenton

Mary Ann and William Ferko

*in memory of Srs. Damian Schrock,
SSJ, Mary Regis Schrock, SSJ, and
Genarosa Schrock*

Shirley Ferrick*

*in honor of all the workers dealing
with the corona virus*

Bernadette Ferry

in memory of Rose and Richard Ferry

Jill and Thomas Fessler

*in memory of Mary Ann Fessler and
Francis Fahey Jr.*

Sandy Fetzner

Theresa Feyas

Rev. Thomas Fialkowski

Sandy and David Filippi

**The Rita I. Finigan Fund of The Erie
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in honor of Sr. Jean Baptiste DiLuzio, SSJ

Cynthia and Gerald First

Charles Fischer

Marilyn Fischer

*in memory of Jeanne Vance
in memory of Charles Fischer*

Marjorie Fischer

JoAnne and James Fisher

in memory of Ann Fisher

Norma Fitzpatrick

*in honor of the fabulous
healthcare workers*

Maryann and William* Flaherty

in memory of Betty Zehner

Penelope and Lawrence Fledderman

Cynthia Fleischer

in honor of all religious education

Kathleen and Terry Fletcher

*in memory of Sr. Mary Kay McNelis,
SSJ, and in honor of Theresa Marie
McNelis Wells*

Barbara Flett

*in memory of Josephine and
Joseph Rodak*

**Ann and Gary Flick/The Ann and Gary
Flick Fund of The Erie Community
Foundation**

Rebecca and James Flynn

in memory of Audrey Vieira

Audrie Fogleboch

**Mary and Stephen Forgenie/The
Stephen and Mary Forgenie Fidelity
Charitable Fund**

Maureen and Mark Formanski

*in memory of Betty Rowand and
Sr. Mary Ellen Dwyer, SSJ*

Shirley and Joseph Fornal

*in memory of Michael Zdarko and in
honor of the Fornal family*

Susan and Russell Forquer

Janet and Bill Fowler

in memory of Jeremy

Brother Joseph Fox

in memory of Sr. Michaela Fox, SSJ

Gary Fracassi

in memory of Carol Fracassi

Mary and Conrad Franz

in memory of Aubry Williams

Cathy Fratalia

Michelle and John Frego

*in memory of Agnes and Yvette
in memory of members of the
Donahue and Frego families*

Frances Anne Freitas

*in memory of Maria and James
Freitas, and Mary and Frank
in memory of members of the Freitas
and Friel families and in honor of Fran
and Dan Freitas
in memory of Adrienne Ward*

**Robert Frenzel*/The Robert and
Kathleen Frenzel Fund of The Erie
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Kathleen and Pete Frisina

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Gary Froehlich

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Norb Fromknecht

Theresa and Robert Fromknecht

Kathleen and Thomas Fromknecht

Marsha and Ron Fronzaglia

Violet Frost

Esther Fucci

Alice Fuhrman

*in memory of members of the
DeMarco and Fuhrman families
in memory of Jim and Ali Fuhrman*

Carl Fuhrman*

Charlotte Fuhrman

Mary and Jon Fuhrman

Timothy Fuhrman

Linda and Dennis Fullerton

Rita Furno

Florence Fusco

*in memory of members of the
Fusco family*

Heidi and Guy Fustine

Roseanne Galeza

*in memory of Rose Marie Duca and
Andrew Cerula and in honor Sr. Mary
Rose Romeo, SSJ*

Roseanne Galeza

in honor of Sr. Mary Rose Romeo, SSJ

Esther Gallagher

Joseph Gallagher

in honor of Sr. Geraldine Olon, SSJ

Joan Galli

Rev. Leo Gallina

*in memory of Jessie and Leo Gallina,
and Philip John Gallina*

Marion and Robert Gallivan

Linda Gamble

Lecia Gannon

*in memory of Thomas Gannon and in
honor of Sr. Phyllis Hilbert, SSJ*

Mary Ganzer

Margaret Gardner

in memory of Rose Genusso

Dolores and James Garvey

Linda and Thomas Gates

in memory of Margaret Taft

Shirley Gatto

Michele and Paul Gausman

Thomas Gausman

William Gausman

Lien Gauthier

*in memory of Sr. Marie Eileen
Moyer, SSJ, and in honor of Sr. Martha
Ann Rinderle, SSJ*

Elizabeth Gawronski

in memory of Steven and my parents

Karen and Michael Geary

Sr. Bernadine Gehringer, SSJ

Joan and James Gehrlein

*in memory of Srs. M. Consilli Deck, SSJ,
and Amanda Kuntz, SSJ*

June Gehrlein

Donna Geiger

Patricia George

in memory of Robert George

Renee and David German

Kirsti and James Geronimo

in memory of Sr. Joyce Lowrey, SSJ

Marilyn Gerrell

Yvonne Gersims*

*in memory of Howard J. Gersims and
Kathryn Miller and in honor of John R.
Gersims and Michaela*

Rose and Laurel Giambra

*in memory of Joseph Costa and in
honor of Sr. Rebecca Costa, SSJ*

Nancy Gibson

in memory of Sr. Rose Anne Fedorko, SSJ

Virginia Gibson

in memory of Howard E. Gibson

Linda Gier

*in honor of the Sisters of
St. Joseph charism*

Eileen Gigliotti

in memory of Pia and Nelson Gigliotti

Faith and Al Gillis

in memory of Sr. Rose Ann Fedorko, SSJ

Mary Ann Gleason

in memory of Mary Postas Surovick

Linda and Richard Gleichsner

Judith and Joseph Glennon

Dottie and Skip Glover

*in memory of Sr. Marie Therese
Decker, SSJ*

Tina and Gary Glover

in memory of Sr. Mary Ellen Dwyer, SSJ

Mary Alice and Bob Glowacki

Mary Gloystein

in memory of Diane Wells

Barbara and Paul Gmuier

Donna and William Gocella

in honor of Sr. Ann Donohue, SSJ

Rita and Edward Goebel

in memory of Judge Fred Anthony

Carol and Christopher Goff

Marlene Golab

*in memory of Bertha and
Norbert Jaeger*

Maxine Gold

in memory of Jack Gold, MD

Laurie and Duane Golden

*in memory of Shirley Ann
Joslin Amendola*

Kathleen and Gary Goodelle

Dan Goodemote

in memory of Sr. Dorinda Young, SSJ

Toni Goodrich

Kathryn Gorman

in memory of Mary Wieser

Sandra and Gregory Gorniak

*in memory of John Hauser and in
honor of Irene and Ed Gorniak*

Kristine and Richard Gosnell

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*in memory of Ellen (Sheehan) Klofft
and in honor of my mom*

Rev. Joseph Gregorek

Kathryn and Joseph Greulich

*deceased

Donor Profile

Angie Kontur

by Dotty Hanna, Executive Director, SSJ Mission & Ministries Foundation

Why I support the Sisters of St. Joseph

When Angie Kontur retired from her career in real estate, she wanted to divide her time between having fun and giving back to the community. So, for fun, Angie has traveled to more than 40 countries, ridden an elephant, and hiked both a marathon and a glacier. And her giving—a generous mix of time, talent, and treasure—has been just as notable.

In the fall of 2010, Angie joined St. Patrick's parish. She was looking for a parish that offered more opportunities to become involved in the community, and that's where she met Sr. Marie Stephen Kebort.

"I just don't know where the community would be without the work of the sisters."

"Sister is one of my favorite people in the whole wide world and the inspiration for my involvement with the Sisters of St. Joseph," Angie recalled.

"I was moved by all the things the sisters do—especially the revitalization of neighborhoods through the SSJ Neighborhood Network and the work with the homeless at St. Patrick's Haven."

The needs of the homeless called to Angie, who—until COVID changed everything—volunteered at St. Patrick's Haven, visiting with the men who stay there.

"Spending time with the men at the Haven took me out of my comfort zone," she said. "But it was such a blessing."

In addition to giving her time, Angie has given generous financial support to St. Patrick's Haven, the SSJ Neighborhood Network, the SSJ Thanksgiving Dinner, and the congregation.

"There were times early in my marriage when it was difficult to scrape a few nickels together to put in the collection plate," Angie recalled. "We're just so fortunate and so blessed to be able to share things now."

Speaking of all Catholic sisters in Erie, Angie noted, "I just don't know where the community would be without the work of the sisters."

Speaking on behalf of the sisters, we say – we don't know where we'd be without loving friends like you, Angie.



Mary Alice and Leonard Grieco

*in memory of Alice and Webb Nantes,
and Christopher Rouch
in memory of Alice and Webb Nantes,
and Michele Suprunowicz*

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in memory of Eileen Falcon

Maurita and James Griffin

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in memory of Leona Wolfe

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the kindness of others

by Dotty Hanna, Executive Director, SSJ Mission & Ministry Foundation

When Mother Agnes Spencer and three other sisters arrived in northwestern Pennsylvania in 1860, they had little more than the clothes on their backs.

For decades, the sisters relied heavily on donations to support their ministries and their humble lifestyles. Most sisters worked for nothing or very modest pay, at best. But, over time, some sisters' salaries increased, some became eligible for Social Security, and some even earned pensions.

Contrary to popular belief, the Diocese of Erie is not financially responsible for the Sisters of St. Joseph.

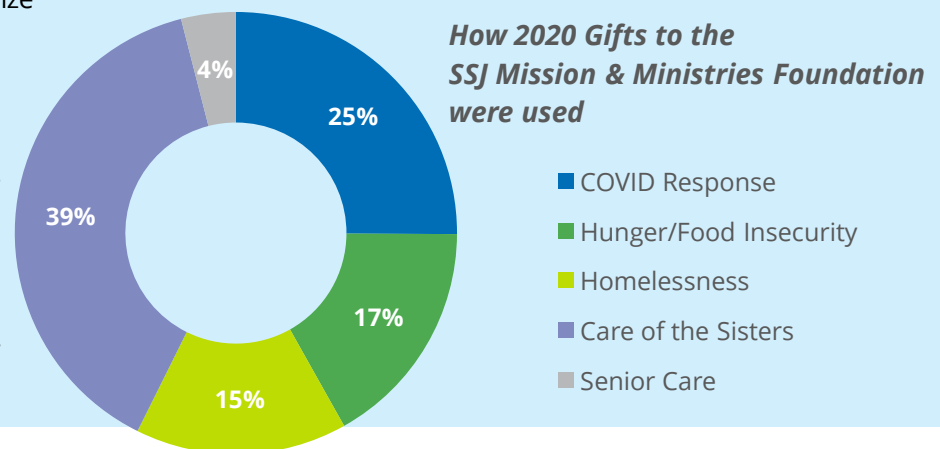
"We often wonder whether our friends and benefactors realize how essential they are to our work," said Sr. Mary Drexler, president of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania.

"It was the generosity of community members that supported our orphanages and built our hospitals. And as needs changed, it was this same outpouring of love and support that enabled us to build nursing homes, to staff schools, to create homeless shelters, and to feed the hungry. Wherever

we've been, and wherever we go in the coming years, you can be assured that it's thanks to the benevolence of friends who share our passion for serving the dear neighbor."

We often wonder whether our friends and benefactors realize how essential they are to our work.

Mary Drexler, SSJ



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in memory of Mary Ras

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it doesn't take a rocket scientist

by Doty Hanna, Executive Director,
SSJ Mission & Ministries Foundation

Sometimes talk about wills and living trusts, bequests, beneficiaries, etc., can be baffling. If you agree, don't worry, you're not alone. The confusion around the topic of estate planning is probably one reason that 60 percent of the population dies without a will – it's too puzzling, so they never get around to it.

Or they wait until a crisis forces them to take action. In addition, having an estate attorney press you about family and financial matters can seem intimidating.

We'll help you get started. We can send you some complimentary information we think will take the mystery out of writing a will – and show you that it really doesn't take a rocket scientist to write a will and that you can get yours done!

If you are interested in learning the basics of a good will and the steps that can get you there, let us know and we'll send the information to you. Also, if in the process of writing your will, you are inclined to include The Sisters of St. Joseph Mission & Ministries Foundation, we can tell you how you can accomplish that, too. We're here to help – let us know how we can be of assistance.

For more information, contact Doty Hanna at 814-836-4202 or by emailing dhanna@ssjerie.org.

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in memory of members of the Kowlaski and Bula families

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*in memory of deceased Sisters
in memory of family members
in memory of my parents*

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*in memory of Sr. Mary, my first boss
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honor of Srs. Mary Claire Kennedy,
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*in memory of Sr. Carol Wilcox, SSJ,
and in honor of Sr. Margaret (Peggy)
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Cecelia Michelotti

*in memory of Sr. Ann Amen, SSJ, and
in honor of the significant work the
sisters do for people in need*

Madeline Miele

*in memory of Sr. Margaret (Peggy)
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in memory of Ruth Moore

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in memory of Lawrence Weiss

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Struble, and Helen and Stephen Mikus*

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in memory of Gert Milkowski

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*in memory of the deceased members
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*in memory of Sr. Margaret (Peggy)
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*in memory of Catherine Pirrello and
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*in memory of James J. Mizner,
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in memory of my parents

Greg and Diane Morosky

in memory of Sr. Kathryn Connolly, SSJ

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in memory of Mary Lou Franz Ackerman*

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honor of Kathy, Mary and
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Nettie and Thomas Ohmer
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Ann Ohmer*

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Tim Ohmer

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*in memory of those who have died
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in memory of Carol, Chester and Dolores Pietrowski

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in memory of Srs. Cherubim Tito, SSJ, and Consuela Quinn, SSJ, and in honor of Sr. Phyllis Difuccia, SSJ

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50 years as a priest*

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Beichner, and Gertrude and Cletus Schill*

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in honor of Cathedral Prep Class of '53 and St. John's Class of '49

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in memory of Thomas Stuckert, George Stuckert and Susan Stuckert-Bachelor

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in memory of Audrey Vieira

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Monica and Ashok Suri

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in memory of Sr. Carol Ann McLaughlin, OSB

Larry Szewczyk

Frank Szustak
in memory of Mary Ann Owens Szustak
in honor of Sr. Jean Baptiste DiLuzio, SSJ

Patty and Richard Szychowski
in memory of Robert Arrowsmith and John Bud Hill

Sr. Jude Marie Talerico, SSJ
in memory of Sallie Law

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in memory of Mary Tellers

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in memory of Corinna Tempestini and Margaret Barabas

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JoAn Thompson and Ruth Carroll
in memory of Jim Thompson

Rachelle Thompson

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Patricia and John Timon

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Tipperary West

Jacqueline Tirpak
Virginia Titus
Mary and Russell Todd
Jo and Rocco Tomasino
in memory of Audrey Vieira
Michele Tomczak
Cindy and Ken Tome
*in honor of all the sisters who taught
at OLP*
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Sonja Toner
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*in memory of Virginia and
Victor Tortorelli*
Sigma Toth
Mary Jo Touchard
in memory of George Touchard
Andrea Tracey
Marlene and Gerald* Trambley
Paul Tran
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Mary Ree Travers
Loretta Traynor
in honor of the Traynor family
Sylvia Tronoski
*in memory of members of the Mehler
and Tronoski families*
Janice and G. Thomas Tssario
*in memory of members of the Tssario,
Green and Scherrer families*
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Robert Tullio
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Cyber Circle ZOOM Gatherings

zoom

FRIDAY, OCT 15 4:30 p.m.
Livestream Opening liturgy with Bishop Lawrence Persico, Celebrant*

MONDAY, OCT 18 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCT 19 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCT 20 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCT 21 11a.m. – noon

SATURDAY, OCT 23 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Special "All Villa" Cyber circle hosted by sister alum and former faculty members.

SUNDAY, OCT 24 9 a.m.
*Livestream Closing liturgy**

ZOOM ID NUMBER: 324 119 3043

***LIVESTREAM LINKS:**

www.facebook.com/SSJErie
www.youtube.com/user/SSJErie/live

cyber circle of friends 2021 —celebrating the year of st. joseph

Last year our Circle of Friends celebration changed from an outdoor liturgy and picnic to a week's worth of virtual social hours with friends far and near. We're planning a virtual celebration again this year.

In honor of **"the Year of St. Joseph," Cyber Circles 2021** will kick off with a live-streamed liturgy, celebrated by Bishop Lawrence Persico, at **4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 15**, the 371st anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of St. Joseph in LePuy, France.

Then, throughout the week, sisters will host a series of ZOOM Cyber Circles. Hope to see you then!

We're still finalizing plans, so watch for more information!