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*Sisters of Notre Dame  
of the United States*

California Region

*Mission Advancement Egram*

May 29, 2025

**One Heart. One Hope. One Mission.**

## MESSAGE FROM MISSION ADVANCEMENT

*...the great Notre Dame story of global sisterhood*

Dear Friends,

The election of Pope Leo XIV to be the successor of St. Peter is indeed a moment of rejoicing for all Catholics and for all people of goodwill. To have a pope who is from the United States gave us a new sense of our global realities! We have discovered many connections with Pope Leo... Perhaps one of the most memorable was the fact that Sr. Gina Marie Blunck dined with him at lunch just last November. (She actually took the photo but miraculously joined the group through the magic of technology...)



We have learned that Pope Leo's priorities include Church and world unity, listening in dialogue, the discipline of building bridges, mutual collaboration, universal fraternity, and a missionary heart. As he said, "The witness of our fraternity will certainly contribute to building a more peaceful world, something that all men and women of good will desire in their hearts."

During May, we've had several reminders of the graces of our global sisterhood. In addition to the other stories in this egram, the East Africa Delegation witnessed the first vows of 12 sisters, and the perpetual profession of 3 sisters. We certainly can rejoice in this new life within the congregation and pray that God will continue to bless them as they proclaim God's goodness and provident care through their ministries.



We also offer our heartfelt gratitude to all who have provided spiritual and financial support for the global sisterhood that we share. Together, we have been given opportunities to exercise Pope Leo's priorities and we look forward to his leadership. On behalf of all of the Sisters of Notre Dame in 19 countries around the world, please know that we rely on Mary, Mother of the Church, to be our special intercessor. May you be blessed!

Gratefully,

Sr. Lisa Megaffin, S.N.D.

Director of Mission Advancement Services

# FROM THE CALIFORNIA GRAPEVINE

## Godspeed, Sisters!



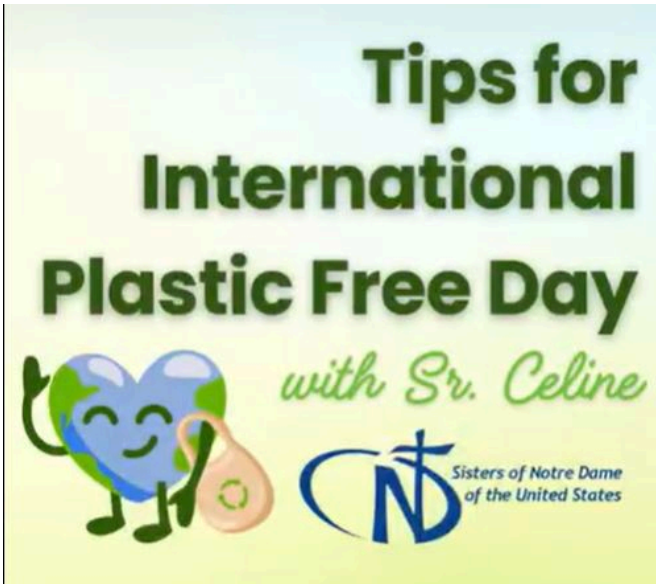
Sr. Regina Robbins and Sr. Joann Schlarbaum share farewells with Sr. Maria Kharita Kuil (on the right) who has been in California for several months. She participated in ongoing formation and education activities and will now assume the position of Postulant Director at the international formation house in the Philippines.



After a year of study at California Lutheran University, Sr. Pramila Hembrom from India received a master's degree in educational leadership. In this photo, she shared her gratitude to the Notre Dame Center community for all of their encouragement and support. Sr. Pramila returned to India on May 20 and she will assume a new ministry as the vice-principal of Notre Dame Academy in Patna.

## Care for Creation Corner

May 25 was International Plastics Free Day--and July will be International Plastics Free Month! Here is a motivational video provided by Sr. Celine Bundschuh of the Toledo region. She demonstrates how the use of reusable over disposable items provides care for creation and love for future generations! Click on the graphic to view the video--prepare to be inspired!



## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

*...living with one heart, one hope, one mission*

**Saturday, May 31 - 4:00 p.m.**  
NDA Campus

### Notre Dame Academy Graduation

Join the Class of 2025, faculty, staff and families for this traditional ceremony via [live-stream](#). The Sisters of Notre Dame wish the graduates many blessings in their future pursuits.





Tuesday, June 10 - 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Annenberg Community Beach House  
Santa Monica

**South Central LAMP's 2025  
Empowerment Awards**

This memorable evening will honor individuals and community partners for their remarkable contributions and impactful work with South Central LAMP. Honorees include



**Marilyn Stambler**

President of Friars Charitable Foundation, recipient of the Person of the Year Award

**Valerie Woodard**

Kindergarten Teacher at St. Martin of Tours School, recipient of the Outstanding Community Partner Award

**Maria Alcalde and Rev. Paul Fitzpatrick**

of St. Martin of Tours Parish, recipients of the Outstanding Community Partner Award  
Follow this link to make reservations and for more information.

Saturday, July 26, Noon  
St. Julie Billiart Church  
Newbury Park

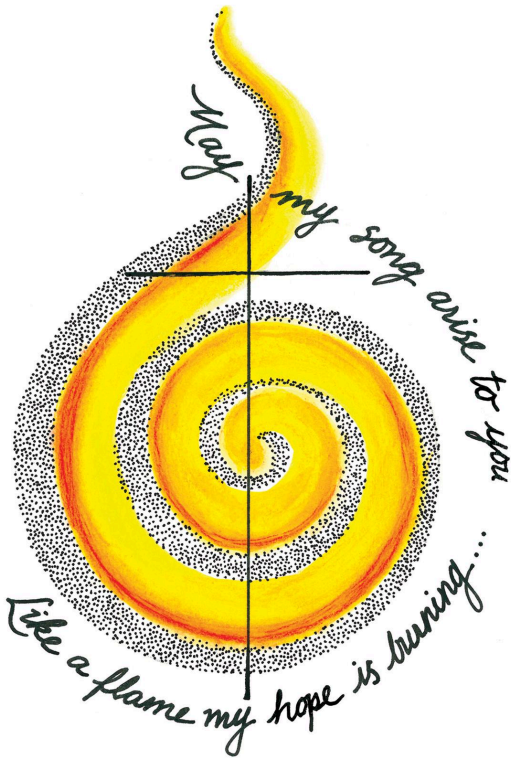
**2025 SND Jubilee Mass and Reception**

We will be honoring two Sisters of Notre Dame for their years of consecration:

**DIAMOND JUBILEE ~ 60 years**  
Sr. Antoinette Marie Moon

**GOLDEN JUBILEE ~ 50 years**  
Sr. Rose Marie Tulacz

The ceremony will be livestreamed. For further information, email [infoca@sndusa.org](mailto:infoca@sndusa.org).



Thursday, August 7 - 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Notre Dame Center

**Life is changed, not ended**

The Sisters of Notre Dame will offer a practical conversation about planning a Mass of Christian Burial (for oneself or a loved one) and other related topics. Seating is limited and an RSVP is required to guarantee sufficient materials; a free will offering will be appreciated. Kindly RSVP via email by Monday, August 4.



**SNDUSA Website**

**SND USA Magazine, Spring, 2025**

**2024 Impact Report**

**Remembering Sr. Mary John Shin - *NEW***

**The Living Legacy of the Sisters of Notre Dame in California**

**Archives of the California Mission Advancement Egrams**

**Please be our partner and donate now.**



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