Sisters of Notre Dame of the United States

SND USA

FALL 2026



A Healing Presence

ALSO INSIDE:

Sister Angela Lee Recognizes Healthcare as a Sacred Ministry

An In-Person and Online Call to Heal

And More...

Sisters of Notre Dame of the United States

SND USA

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SND USA Magazine



(front row) Sisters Patricia Garrahan, Dianne Rumschlag and Valerie Roxburgh (back row) Sisters Susan Kusz and Marla Monahan

LETTER FROM **SND USA PROVINCIAL TEAM**

Dear Friends,

As the new SND USA Provincial Team, we are excited to introduce this Fall 2026 issue of *SND USA Magazine*. Our first "100 days" in office have been filled with learning the many challenges and opportunities continuing to shape SND ministries across the U.S. It has been invigorating!

This issue highlights the congregation's ongoing commitment to being a healing presence throughout the United States. The lead article provides historic context on the healthcare work of our sisters in eastern Kentucky, the unique needs facing rural healthcare in this country today and our commitment to continue to support those needs into the future.

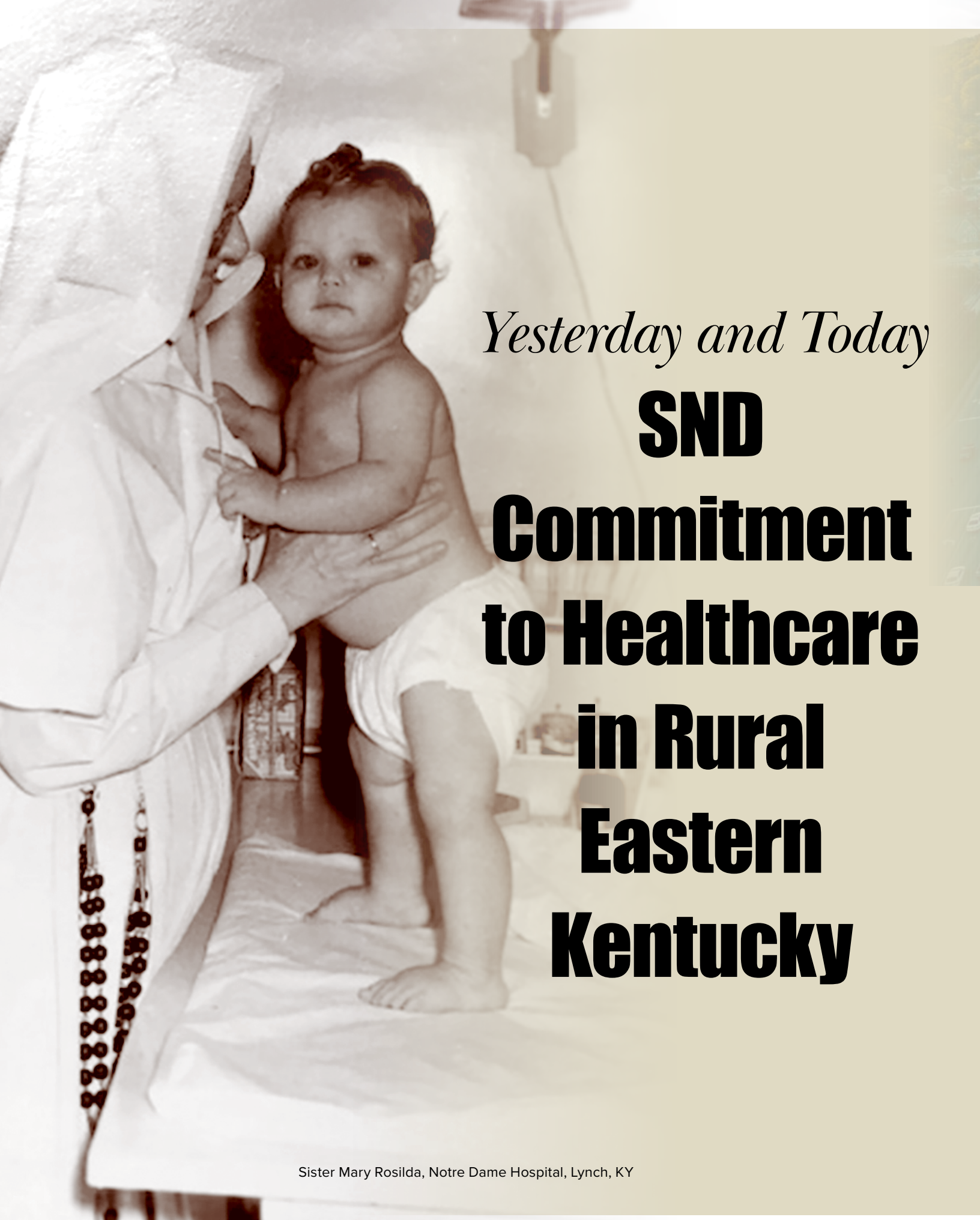
Readers will also be introduced to the healing works of Sister Angela Lee, a nurse at Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital in Los Angeles, CA; Sister Jean Marie Hoffman, a volunteer at the Yung Family Cancer Center at St. Elizabeth HealthCare in Edgewood, KY; and Sister Deborah Giles, an online mental healthcare counselor in Fremont, OH.

Readers will also get a glimpse into the experiences of the Pastoral Care Director at the SND Healthcare Center in Chardon, OH, and the thoughtful service of a volunteer who found a new calling in retirement.

There are many ways we all can provide a healing presence in the lives of those around us. We hope this issue inspires you to get involved in a manner that interests you. May this fall bring you and your loved ones' health, joy and abundant love. Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support.

In gratitude,

The SND USA Provincial Team



Yesterday and Today

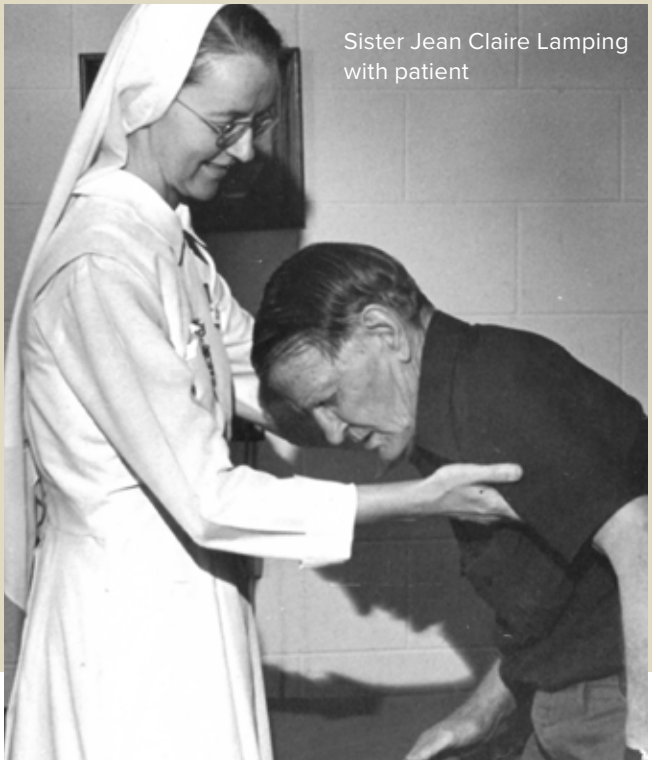
SND Commitment to Healthcare in Rural Eastern Kentucky

Sister Mary Rosilda, Notre Dame Hospital, Lynch, KY



UK St. Claire, Main Campus

The Sisters of Notre Dame have provided hands-on care to women, children, the marginalized and others in need since their arrival in the United States in 1874. In eastern Kentucky, the sisters' earnest desire, fortitude and unwavering commitment to providing quality, comprehensive healthcare have left an indelible imprint on individuals and families residing in this impoverished region of the country.



Sister Jean Claire Lamping with patient

Historically and even today, very few Catholics reside in eastern Kentucky. In the 1950s, a mining camp hospital in Lynch, KY was looking for a new owner and operator. The bishop of Covington, KY felt it offered a tremendous opportunity to evangelize in this rural pocket of Appalachia. He asked the Sisters of Notre Dame to acquire, operate and staff the mining camp hospital, which they enthusiastically did.

A few years later, that mining camp hospital faced closure. At the same time, Dr. Claire Louise Caudill and her nurse, Susie Hableib, were serving the people of eastern Kentucky and realized a local hospital was desperately needed. They sought sponsorship from every organization and religious group they could find and, as a last appeal, turned to the Catholic Church. The bishop once again asked the SND congregation to consider taking on the ownership and operation of a new hospital. The call was again answered. In 1963 St. Claire Medical Center was established in Morehead, KY by the Sisters of Notre Dame. The sisters chose the name to honor Dr. Caudill, already named Country Doctor of the Year and the originator of the effort to establish the Morehead hospital.

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Sister Jeanne Frances Cleves at St. Claire in Moreland, KY

According to Sister Marla Monahan, former board member for St. Claire in Morehead, the first sisters to administer and staff the hospital had already been trained in administration, as nurses, lab technicians, dietitians and housekeepers during their years running the hospital in Lynch. "There were very few Catholics in eastern Kentucky, and there was much suspicion about Catholic sisters," she shares with a chuckle. "Soon after our arrival, there was a serious school bus accident. The victims were brought to St. Claire. Everyone survived due to the excellent care they received, and the Sisters of Notre Dame became revered members of the community."

"Through the sponsorship of St. Claire, the SNDs ensured healthcare was available in the northeastern part of the state. From labor and delivery through medical and surgical care to inpatient mental health services, compassionate, quality healthcare has been available here."

- Sister Judine Lambert, Vice President, Mission Integration

"Throughout my many years on the board of directors at St. Claire, I have heard numerous stories about our sisters," Sister Marla continues. "Sister Jeanne Frances Cleves served as an emergency room nurse. She befriended the staff, took care of their families and babysat their children. One staff member told me that during her time at St. Claire, she suffered from Guillain-Barre Syndrome and was not expected to recover. This staff member attributes her recovery to the prayers of Sister Jeanne Frances. The staff member invited Sister Jeanne Frances out to lunch to celebrate her recovery. Sister Jeanne Frances made it clear, even though she had been the one invited out to lunch, that she would still be picking up the check or would never pray for the staff member again. Sister Jeanne Frances won that debate and picked up the check!"

According to Sister Judine Lambert, Vice President, Mission Integration, "Through the sponsorship of St. Claire, the SNDs ensured healthcare was available in the northeastern part of the state. From labor and delivery through medical and surgical care to inpatient mental health services, compassionate, quality healthcare has been available here. At times, there were financial difficulties, but the SNDs found ways to make it work. No one has ever been turned away. Certainly, on a more personal level, the many sisters who served here in

dozens of different roles touched the lives of many. From administration to nursing, lab, anesthesia, pastoral care or just taking the time to rock babies in labor and delivery, our sisters served countless patients and families faithfully and lovingly."

Sister Mary Joell Overman served as the second Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of St. Claire from 1969 to 1983. "As the CEO of a small, rural hospital in eastern Kentucky, I was the primary leader, stabilizer and community face of the medical center and had to wear many hats," Sister Joell reflects. Her responsibilities spanned nearly every dimension of hospital leadership from ensuring the mission of the medical center was being advanced to guaranteeing financial stability and building community trust and visibility.

"The early years had unique challenges for the sisters at St. Claire," Sister Joell admits. "We looked different. We wore identifiable, white religious habits. We often were referred to as 'the church ladies.' There were myths about Catholics but, in time, those myths were dispelled. People appreciated receiving excellent care as well as the kindness of the sisters. Nursing shortages often required sisters to work double shifts. Our sister nurses were also excellent teachers and offered training courses for nurses' aides. With the support of Dr. Louise Caudill and her nurse, Susie, along with other physicians, Morehead State University and University of Kentucky (UK), the climate changed."

Expansions in 1972, 1980 and 1994 added beds and services. Beginning in 1973, primary care centers were established in Menifee, Bath, Carter, Elliott and Rowan Counties in Kentucky. Home healthcare, hospice, home medical equipment as well as a cancer treatment center provided services outside the hospital. With each expansion and added service, the St. Claire staff strengthened its commitment to provide quality healthcare in a caring environment.

"As St. Claire grew, the structures of governance likewise evolved," Sister Joell says. "Working partnerships with UK HealthCare and Morehead State University became formalized agreements. Both institutions were active agents in the early civic planning group that worked to bring a hospital to Morehead." Through the decades, Sister Joell has continued her affiliation with St. Claire through board and foundation service and as a volunteer.

The Rural Healthcare Conundrum

Rural communities in the United States frequently face daunting public health challenges, including workforce shortages, geographic isolation, lower population volume, financial uncertainties and limited access to transportation and physical and mental healthcare.

It is estimated that 14% to 19% of the U.S. population lives in rural counties. Data suggests rural regions of the country have approximately 40% fewer physicians per capita compared to urban and suburban areas, leading to increased workloads and employee burnout. This shortage is exacerbated by healthcare professionals and their families preferring urban or suburban living that offers greater lifestyle and educational opportunities.

Additionally, geographic isolation is significant in rural areas. Residents often must travel significant distances to access hospitals or specialty care, if they are lucky enough to have access to transportation. This distance can lead to delayed treatments,

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"Rural populations tend to face higher rates of chronic health conditions, like obesity and diabetes, compared to urban settings. This disparity is linked to limited access to healthy food options and wellness facilities."

- Sister Marla Monahan, former board member for St. Claire in Morehead, KY



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particularly in emergencies. When finally seen by a doctor or other healthcare professional, patients are sicker and require more costly treatments.

Nearly half of all rural hospitals in the U.S. have 25 or fewer beds. The lower population density in rural areas results in lower patient volumes which make it challenging to maintain fixed operating costs. And rural hospitals often treat older, sicker and poorer populations compared to the national average.

St. Claire is located in one of the most economically-challenged areas of the United States. All 11 counties in the service area are rated as economically distressed, placing them among the lowest 10% of the nation's counties in terms of unemployment rate, per capita income and poverty rate.

Sister Marla explains, "Rural populations tend to face higher rates of chronic health conditions, like obesity and diabetes, compared to urban settings. This disparity is linked to limited access to healthy food options and wellness facilities."

Together with other board members and the leadership team at St. Claire, Sister Marla strove to develop strategic initiatives that would ensure access to affordable, comprehensive healthcare for this economically impoverished region in Appalachia.

According to Sister Judine, "Gratefully, access to healthcare greatly improved through the expansion of Medicaid in 2014. This raised the eligibility for low-income adults up to 138% of the federal poverty level. Many of the people who did not have insurance prior to 2014 now have it. However, one of the main obstacles to healthcare access remains unsolved: transportation. Because we are rural, the distances people travel to reach our hospital can be long and challenging. Many of our patients do not have access to a reliable vehicle, and if they do, they may not have the money for gas. To help meet this need, in the 1970s and '80s, St. Claire

"Because we are rural, the distances people travel to reach our hospital can be long and challenging. Many of our patients do not have access to a reliable vehicle, and if they do, they may not have the money for gas."

- Sister Judine Lambert, Vice President, Mission Integration

began a Home Health Service and built several rural family medicine clinics out in the counties. This helped a great deal, but transportation remains an issue for those who need specialist care, imaging or oncology treatment. The hospital does not have providers in every medical specialty, so some patients have to travel an hour or more to be treated in a larger city. Many will not make that trip."

Another issue facing this community was and continues to be food insecurity. "About 18% of our population are food insecure; the childhood food insecurity rate is 21.5%. Many of our counties do not have a grocery store. Residents rely on local dollar stores and often obtain food at a food pantry, if there is one close by. Food-insecure adults incur annual healthcare expenses over $1,800 more than food-secure adults," says Sister Judine.

She says deaths by diseases of despair (overdose, suicide, alcoholic liver disease) are more than twice the national average in eastern Kentucky. Rates of smoking, heart disease, lung cancer and COPD in eastern Kentucky are among the highest in the nation. Childhood vaccination rates are some of the lowest in the country.

University of Kentucky Acquisition

Today, expanded healthcare access in eastern Kentucky is a reality. In 2024 St. Claire entered an expanded partnership with UK HealthCare, a collaboration that ensures St. Claire can continue its 60-year tradition of serving the healthcare needs of people residing in eastern Kentucky. With St. Claire joining the UK HealthCare family, it is now known as UK St. Claire. The Sisters of Notre Dame released their sponsorship of the hospital, but they greatly desired to continue serving in the region. The establishment of the SND Eastern Kentucky Foundation allows the sisters to continue and expand their mission for years to come.

According to Sister Marla, "The CEO/President of St. Claire along with the board recognized that stand-alone rural hospitals faced enormous challenges. After much prayer, study and negotiations, UK acquired St. Claire. The promise of a new hospital and the establishment of a grant-making foundation were part of the agreement. The Sisters of Notre Dame knew this was the best way forward for our beloved St. Claire and our friends in

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SND Eastern Kentucky Foundation

The SND Eastern Kentucky Foundation is dedicated to uplifting communities and enriching lives. Guided by the legacy of the Sisters of Notre Dame and a deep commitment to service, we focus our efforts on supporting individuals and families in need through three key areas.

Health & Wellness –providing access to quality healthcare, wellness programs, and resources that promote physical, mental and emotional well-being.

Education & Career Development – empowering individuals through early learning support, scholarships, vocational training and career advancement programs.

Quality of Life – supporting initiatives that provide stability

The SND Eastern Kentucky Foundation officially opened in Morehead, KY on January 1, 2025, with a goal of continuing the ministry the Sisters of Notre Dame have provided to the region for the past six decades. Sister Marla Monahan, SND Eastern Kentucky Foundation Chairperson shared, "The hospital's original mission of 'proclaiming God's goodness through a healing ministry to the people of eastern Kentucky' has been extremely meaningful to the Sisters of Notre Dame through the years. With the recent partnership of UK and St. Claire, we released our sponsorship of the hospital but greatly desired to stay in the region and continue to serve as we have for the past 61 years. The establishment of this new foundation will keep the SND mission expanding and growing in this part of the country for years to come."

SND Eastern Kentucky
FOUNDATION
In the spirit of the Sisters of Notre Dame



First SNDs to minister at St. Claire Medical Center, 1963

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eastern Kentucky."

"One reason to partner with UK is its shared mission with St. Claire – to stay here to serve the people of this area. Because so many of our patients do not have the means to seek care out of town, it has always been important for St. Claire to offer as many medical specialties as feasible. That means we had to grow. St. Claire was on a growth journey even before we explored transitioning to another organization. And the administrators at UK told us if we joined them, they wanted us to grow so that more patients could be seen here in Morehead and fewer would have to travel to UK HealthCare in Lexington," Sister Judine explains.

"We have always had specialists here, but not all the medical specialties our people needed," Sister Judine admits. "To serve those patients here meant we had to add more specialties. And we have! In the last three years, we added 53 new physicians and 10 new service lines, such as endocrinology, hand surgery, infectious disease, neurology, orthopedic spine surgery, and plastic and vascular surgery. Adding all these service lines meant we needed more staff. Consequently, our staff grew from 1,300 to 1,800, expanding the local economy. To help train this expanded workforce, last year 231 staff were awarded more than $1.3 million in scholarships. And our number of clinical encounters of all types last year exceeded 2 million. This level of growth and workforce development was only possible because we became part of UK. And we need to keep growing."

Change occurred within the administration as well. Sister Marla says, "During my provincial administration we changed the bylaws of our sponsored ministries so that laypersons could be chairpersons of the board. Our first St. Claire lay chairperson, Bob Stevens, holds a degree in hospital administration and is an attorney. I served as chairperson after his six-year term and until we were acquired by UK. Now I serve as the chairperson of the SND Eastern Kentucky (EK) Foundation Board."

"The sisters developed community, formed relationships and worked hard to ensure healthcare was available for local communities."

- Sister Judine Lambert,
Vice President, Mission Integration

Likewise, Sister Judine's roles at UK St. Claire changed since first serving as a chaplain in 2010. Her role became increasingly more administrative. Sister Judine currently serves as Vice President of Mission

"There is a strength rooted in their faith that never ceases to amaze and teach me."

- Sister Judine Lambert,
Vice President, Mission Integration

Integration, and she is responsible for the Pastoral Care Department. Sister Judine also leads a project to preserve the history of UK St. Claire, offers new staff orientation, administers programs that assist staff and patients who have emergency financial needs and serves as an on-call chaplain when needed.

"I also serve as an ethics consultant and assist with teaching ethics within the UK Physician Assistant program," adds Sister Judine. "I am also involved with research ethics as a member of our Institutional Review Board. And I serve on the board of the SND EK Foundation."

"As I explored the history of UK St. Claire, I found myself amazed at the work of the sisters who were here before me, who came to this area where the population was less than one half of one percent Catholic. The sisters developed community, formed relationships and worked hard to ensure healthcare was available for local communities."

"The people's faith continues to be inspiring," Sister Judine states. "Some deal with extremely challenging upbringings and circumstances. Just when I think I've seen everything, I am stunned by some new situation and the human capacity for resilience. There is a strength rooted in their faith that never ceases to amaze and teach me."

On staff are 80 employees in the UK St. Claire Second Chance Program. "These are individuals in addiction recovery and may have incarceration and felonies in their past. They are among our best employees," states Sister Judine. "Their faith, courage, fortitude and drive to succeed in life is so awe-inspiring. They are living examples of the Paschal Mystery. The books of Father Gregory Boyle have been important in helping me when I work with these employees. One quote that has been very helpful: 'This is what we seek: a compassion that can stand in awe at what the poor have to carry rather than stand in judgment at how they carry it.'"

Sister Judine notes, "While the Sisters of Notre Dame owned and operated St. Claire Hospital for its first 60 years, transitioning to UK ensures care will be available for people in eastern Kentucky for the next 60 years. And it will be thanks to UK. And it will be delivered largely with a very similar mission. That is quite a legacy. In addition, the new SND EK Foundation is already impacting on our neighbors by providing funding to address food insecurity, home repair needs, children's advocacy, scholarships, support to survivors of domestic violence and much more."

"I am excited to see the continued growth and development of healthcare services that will enable people in eastern Kentucky to receive quality healthcare close to home," adds Sister Joell.

Sister Judine Lambert



SISTER ANGELA LEE RECOGNIZES HEALTHCARE AS A SACRED MINISTRY



Sister Angela Lee

Sister Angela Lee says she encountered Christ daily working as a hospital nurse at Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital in Los Angeles and later, caring for her fellow Sisters of Notre Dame in Thousand Oaks, CA.

"I was always drawn to serving in healthcare, especially with the most vulnerable," Sister Angela recalls. "While living in my home country of South Korea, I realized the many needs of expectant mothers, especially those residing in rural areas where there were no clinics or hospitals. I became a midwife and experienced the joy of providing personalized care."

Soon after, God called the young woman to religious life. "My original community, Immaculate Heart of Mary of Mirinae, emigrated from South Korea, and we established a preschool in the Koreatown area of Los Angeles where we provided childcare and shared our faith with the children's parents. During this time, I also earned a California RN license," Sister Angela says.

"Eventually, I entered the Sisters of Notre Dame congregation in California. Sister Kristin Battles was serving as the provincial superior in Thousand Oaks at the time, and she encouraged me to continue my nursing studies due to the tremendous need for nurses. I took some renewal courses and began working as a registered nurse in 2008, first in the medical/surgical unit before transferring to postpartum care at Hollywood Presbyterian. I earned my RNC-NIC (Registered Nurse Certified in Neonatal Intensive Care) license and joined the NICU in 2017," she states.

In 2025 Sister Angela retired after more than 17 years at Hollywood Presbyterian.

"I was blessed to be an instrument of God's compassion and tenderness while serving as a hospital nurse. It was an honor to be present when mothers, newborn infants and families were facing both profound joy and deep vulnerability. In moments of fear, uncertainty, suffering and hope, I came to recognize nursing not simply as a profession but as a sacred ministry. I accompanied families at the beginning of life with reverence, prayer and love," Sister Angela describes.

"Looking back, I see how the Lord poured abundant grace into these ministries, allowing me to encounter God in the most vulnerable: children, fragile newborns, anxious families and the sick. These experiences continually formed my vocation as a woman religious, teaching me to serve with great tenderness and humility and to trust in divine providence," Sister Angela says.

Between 2019 and 2025, Sister Angela also cared for Sister Mary John Shin through her journey with cancer. "Walking with her through suffering, weakness, surrender and final union with the Lord became a profound school of faith for me," she reflects. "Through this experience, God deepened my understanding of compassionate love, fidelity and the mystery of redemptive suffering."

"LOOKING BACK, I SEE HOW THE LORD POURED ABUNDANT GRACE INTO THESE MINISTRIES, ALLOWING ME TO ENCOUNTER GOD IN THE MOST VULNERABLE: CHILDREN, FRAGILE NEWBORNS, ANXIOUS FAMILIES AND THE SICK."

- Sister Angela Lee

Currently, Sister Angela provides individualized healthcare for SNDs residing in Thousand Oaks. "This work involves monitoring general health, medications and nutritional needs; communicating with doctors; providing transportation; and helping with daily living," Sister Angela describes. "I walk beside them as a companion: listening, encouraging and providing loving support on their journey toward healing and wholeness," she states.

"I am able to live SND's charism, proclaiming God's goodness and loving care," she happily exclaims. "Those who are weak, anxious or feeling alone due to their illness truly need the spiritual assurance of God's care for them." Sister finds great inspiration in Matthew 25:40: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Sister Angela concludes, "Having cared for patients, families, the critically ill and the dying, I have come to understand that sometimes the greatest healing comes through faithful presence, tenderness and carrying another's burdens with love. These actions do not require extensive medical training but rather a deep commitment to live the Gospel and a sensitivity to the needs of our brothers and sisters."

A Compassionate Presence at Yung Family Cancer Center



Since the spring of 2021, Sister Jean Marie Hoffman has volunteered at the Yung Family Cancer Center at St. Elizabeth Healthcare in Edgewood, KY. The center serves as a vital resource for northern Kentucky, greater Cincinnati and southeastern Indiana, focusing on three core pillars:

- **Advanced Medicine:** Emphasizing precision medicine, genomic health and innovative clinical research
- **Holistic Support:** Providing a seamless experience that treats the whole person—not just the disease—across various cancer types, including blood, breast and lung cancer
- **Community Impact:** Serving a diverse population across all social classes in a region that unfortunately faces some of the highest cancer rates in the nation

Her commitment to this ministry is deeply personal. "In August 1992, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. At the time, the word 'cancer' felt like a death sentence. My father had passed away from brain cancer just three weeks prior to my own diagnosis. As tears ran down my cheeks, I asked my surgeon, Dr. Bravo, 'How much longer do I have to live?,'" Sister Jean Marie emotionally recalls.

She continues, "He paused, a gentle grin on his face. 'You could leave my office and be hit by a Mack truck,' he said. 'This will not take you.' His words gave me hope, but my heart ached for my mother, who was already grieving my father and now faced the 'double whammy' of my diagnosis."

Sister Jean Marie's journey included four aggressive chemotherapy treatments, 20 radiation sessions and five years of taking a daily medication called Tamoxifen.

"Having walked the path of a patient, I carry profound respect for the medical teams who guided me," Sister Jean Marie whole-heartedly explains. "Today, I am grateful to God for the opportunity to come full circle, sharing my gratitude by being a steady, supportive presence for those currently in the thick of their battles."

"When I share that I am a thirty-four-year survivor, patients are eager to hear my story. They are often shocked and encouraged by the incredible strides made in cancer treatment since my own journey began. It offers them a tangible sense of hope," Sister Jean Marie adds.

Sister Jean Marie believes everyone has the capacity to make a meaningful impact and be a healing presence in the lives of others. "This often happens through small, consistent and unassuming actions rather than grand gestures," she describes. "A 'healing presence' is a way of being fully, compassionately present, providing information, encouraging potential for wholeness and acting as a cheerleader through the good and bad days. It is about letting an individual know they are held in prayer. We are potential agents of change, sharing our light and gifts through our very presence."

As a volunteer at the center, Sister Jean Marie's primary goal is to ensure that every patient and their family feel welcome and at ease from the moment they arrive. Treatments can last anywhere from less than an hour or so to a full four- or eight-hour day, so comfort is essential.



Sister Jean Marie Hoffman

"Today, I am grateful to God for the opportunity to come full circle – sharing my gratitude by being a steady, supportive presence for those currently in the thick of their battles."

- Sister Jean Marie Hoffman

"To help pass the time, we offer snacks, refreshments and a perennial favorite: warm blankets to snuggle into," says Sister Jean Marie. "Whether a patient chooses to watch television, get lost in a book or enjoy a meal brought from the hospital cafeteria or a favorite restaurant, we strive to create a sense of 'home away from home' in the clinical environment. Throughout the day, volunteers and nurses visit frequently to offer support and a friendly face."

Beyond these physical comforts, Sister Jean Marie also has the privilege of bringing the Eucharist to patients undergoing chemotherapy. She insists, "This spiritual service is crucial, providing sustenance, hope and strength during a physically—and emotionally—taxing journey. It offers a tangible connection to God's presence, helping to combat isolation and reduce spiritual distress."

She says each visit begins with a short prayer service before she distributes the Eucharist. "The patients truly look forward to this time, and frankly, so do I. Taking Communion to the fourth floor of the infusion center is a spiritually-enriching experience that makes me feel valued and helpful. It is a profound reminder that while we treat the body, we must also nourish the soul," Sister Jean Marie describes.

"Volunteering at the center allows me to practice love in action by putting others first and setting aside my own concerns," Sister Jean Marie states. "I am frequently reminded of Jesus' teaching on the washing of feet, a reminder that we are called to be servants to one another. As the saying goes: 'Your talent is God's gift to you. What you do with it, is your gift back to God.'"

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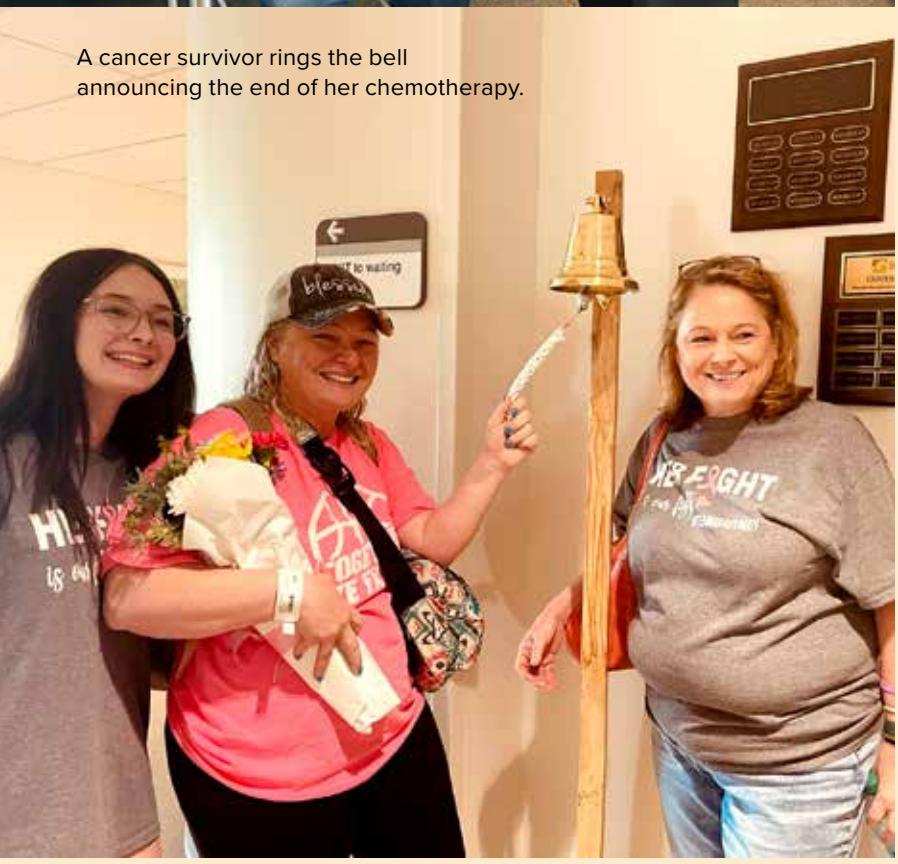
Sister Jean Marie Hoffman with patient



A cancer survivor rings the bell announcing the end of her chemotherapy.

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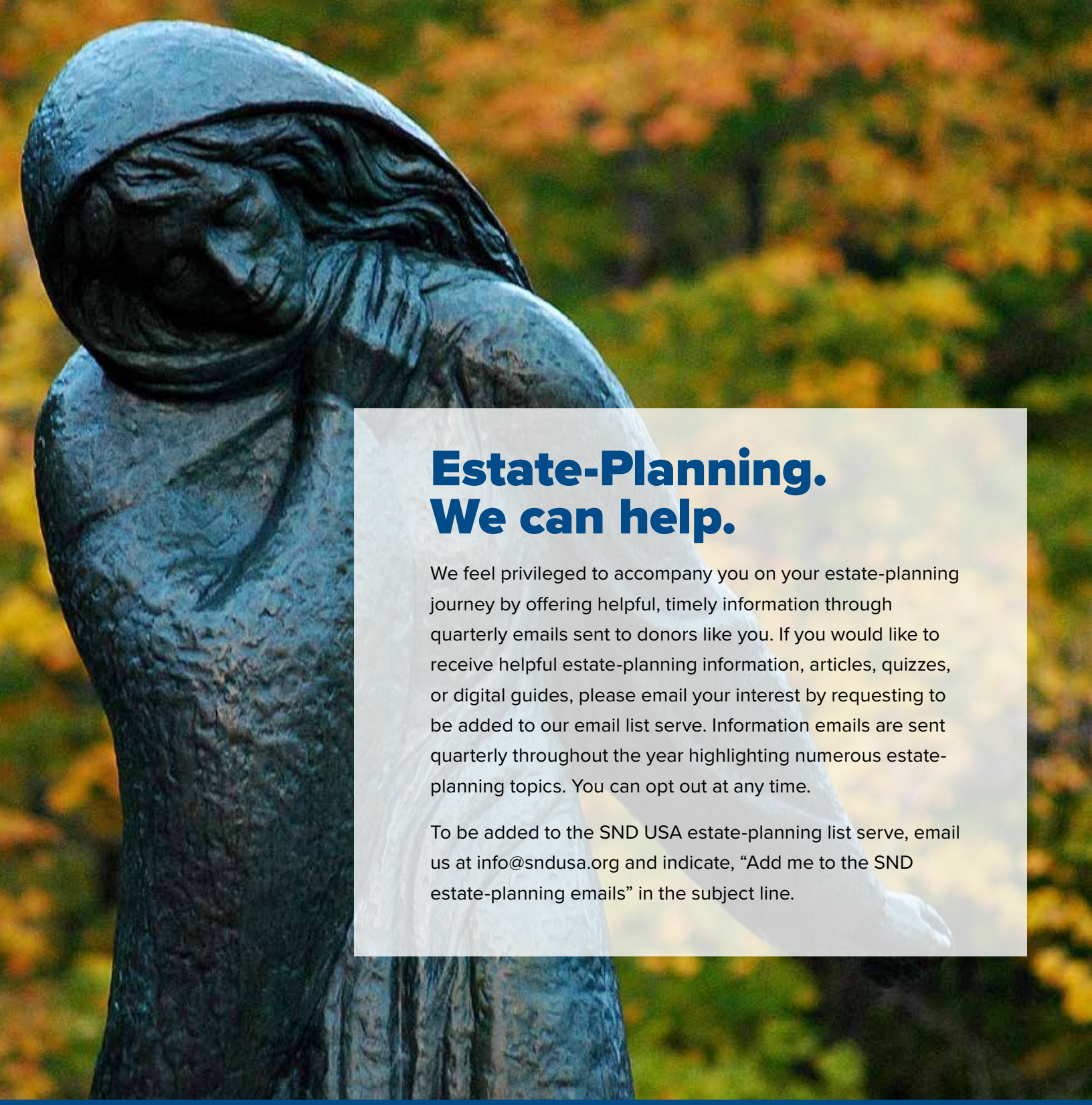
The patients Sister Jean Marie serves at the hospital span the full spectrum of life, from young adults in their 20s to seniors in their 80s and 90s. “Regardless of age, many possess an incredible will to live and a fierce spirit to fight. They come from every imaginable background—from those facing extreme poverty to leaders in the corporate world. Despite these differences in financial status or age, every individual is treated with the same level of love and respect, with the goal of providing comfort and healing,” says Sister Jean Marie.

“Volunteering in cancer care involves intense emotional highs and lows. It’s devastating to witness a patient endure a grueling series of chemotherapy treatments, only to learn through a follow-up CT scan or MRI that the tumor has not shrunk or a relapse has occurred. This news often brings profound emotional and psychological trauma. When an oncologist must determine a new, more aggressive regimen, it is heartbreaking to see a patient start the process all over again,” Sister Jean Marie says.

She continues, “The journey is marked by difficult milestones: the initial shock of hair loss, the crushing weight of treatment-induced fatigue, weight loss and the moments when a patient loses their ‘spunk’ to keep fighting. In those times, a cloud of sadness can feel all-encompassing.”

“However, we also witness incredible highs. At the Yung Cancer Center, we celebrate every milestone. When a patient completes their final session or receives ‘no evidence of disease,’ the infusion floor transforms. Nurses, staff and volunteers line the hallway, waving pom-poms, blowing horns and clapping as the patient and their loved ones walk through. The grand finale is the ringing of the bell: a powerful symbol that they have finished treatment and are on the road to recovery. Seeing patients find purpose despite their diagnosis and regain a sense of normalcy is truly life-affirming.”



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An In-Person and Online

Sister Deborah Giles ministers a healing touch in a unique way—through her keyboard—as she provides individual counseling online.

A Sister of Notre Dame since 1976, Sister Deborah earned a Bachelor of Arts in education from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, OH; a Master of Arts in Christian spirituality with certification for retreat and spiritual direction from Creighton University in Omaha, NE; and a Master of Arts in community counseling from John Carroll University in University Heights, OH.

"Originally, I ministered as a teacher, first in elementary school and then in high school. During my years teaching at various schools in the Toledo Diocese, students approached me with intense concerns," says Sister Deborah. "For some, I was the first one with whom they shared their sexual orientation. Some shared their struggles following their parents' divorce. Some felt depressed or were concerned about other students who seemed significantly depressed. Some shared forearms full of scars from cutting. Some students approached me after school, some during lunch and others chose to share their pain when they came to make up work they missed while absent."



During these years, Sister Deborah was teaching theology and, at times, assisting with student council. "I was keenly aware that my certification in spiritual direction was insufficient to meet some students' needs. I linked those students to our school's non-academic counselor. I deeply felt the pain, sadness and overwhelming stress of my students," Sister Deborah explains.

"These experiences with high school students rekindled a reverent sensitivity to human suffering and a personal desire to heal, something I first felt years ago as a novice," she states. "As I prayed concerning these experiences, I discerned a call to become a counselor."

A few years later, Sister Deborah began graduate studies to become a mental health therapist. "I applied at John Carroll University and was accepted after an interview with the department chair. Dr. Christopher Faiver asked why I wanted to become a therapist. I shared my experience with the students, and Dr. Faiver reflected that I seemed to be experiencing a call to this work. I felt a confirmation of the Spirit's call."

Sister Deborah's first job upon receiving her license was as a primary emergency response therapist in Fremont, OH.

> *"These experiences with high school students rekindled a reverent sensitivity to human suffering and a personal desire to heal – something I first felt years ago as a novice."*
>
> *- Sister Deborah Giles*

"My main job was to meet with someone reported to be a threat to self or others, or unable to function due to psychosis. I met them in the office, in a hospital's emergency department, the juvenile detention center or the

Call to Heal

county jail. My job was to evaluate the mental status of the patient, consult with the supervisor on call and implement whatever level of care seemed appropriate for that person. Some would receive inpatient care; others would agree to a safety plan and begin intensive outpatient care," Sister Deborah explains.

Sister Deborah's role evolved to include working with people suffering from addiction.

"I was challenged by this change but discovered I had a capacity for working with addicts," Sister Deborah says. "I kept in mind that when a teacher asks students what they want to be when they grow up, no student says, 'an addict.' I respected my clients while at the same time keeping a professional relationship that was kind, direct and 'no-nonsense.'"

During the pandemic shut-down, Sister Deborah accepted a position with Tucson Counseling in Arizona. Because all counseling services were remote at the time, she provided remote therapy. "Once people were able to meet in person again, some of my patients chose to do so while others preferred to continue meeting remotely," she says. "And I still see those patients virtually today."

Mental health therapists see people for a variety of concerns. Many of Sister Deborah's clients are dealing with some type of anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, PTSD or life-adjustment problems, among other struggles.

Sister Deborah states, "Even though there are established symptoms for things like depression and anxiety, the way each person experiences any condition is unique and requires an individualized treatment plan."

"People come to therapy simply wanting to feel better. While some arrive with deep insight into their struggles, others aren't sure why they're hurting—and the range of issues that bring them through the door is truly endless."

She approaches her work with the mindset of a steward, believing that any positive impact she makes is ultimately a reflection of God's grace in her life. "I find such purpose in witnessing addicts take responsibility for their life: committing to sobriety, owning their relapses and constantly moving forward. There is also a unique joy in seeing persons with bipolar disorder realize that following their treatment plan doesn't restrain them; it frees them to be their best selves."

She teaches that every part of a person's life—the messy and the beautiful—is sacred ground for healing. Sister Deborah shared, "People have relationship problems. I encounter many people with trauma history. Untreated ADHD can lead to depression and anxiety. Beyond these internal struggles, it's quite common for someone to seek therapy to navigate a difficult relationship where the other person is not ready to seek help or feel hesitant about the therapeutic process. Those are difficult situations where fear and defensiveness can become barriers to the healing and growth so desperately needed."

If anyone is struggling with a problem, Sister Deborah suggests searching for a mental health therapist in their location. "Many places offer both remote and in-person sessions. Some companies work exclusively with telehealth, and others are in-office only. Anyone looking for a counselor can find options through an online search. Websites such as Psychology Today have links to 'find a therapist.' Simply specify location, insurance information and preferences regarding a provider."

Regarding her ministry as a healing presence, Sister Deborah reflects, "I don't know if I'm so much a healing presence as much as I am present when God heals."



Victoria McBride with
Sister Katherine Palisin

Pastoral Care Director Blessed by Relationships with SNDs

Victoria McBride earned a Bachelor of Arts in history in 2011 and a Master of Education in 2013 from the University of Notre Dame, located in South Bend, IN. For the past two years, she has served as the pastoral care director at the Sisters of Notre Dame Healthcare Center in Chardon, OH and graciously accepted an opportunity to answer several questions regarding her role at the Center.

Q: Can you describe your role as Pastoral Care Director for the Sisters of Notre Dame in Chardon, OH?

A: I provide spiritual accompaniment to the sisters in residence at the Chardon provincial center. I plan prayer services and facilitate monthly faith-sharing sessions. I take Holy Communion to sisters when they are in the hospital. If a sister experiences a significant health change or is preparing for surgery, I reach out to a priest so that she can receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Another large part of my role is helping the sisters develop their end-of-life plans. I hold funeral planning workshops periodically, and I meet with sisters one-on-one. When a sister dies, I communicate with her family and various teams at the provincial center who together ensure that her funeral services are a prayerful celebration of her life of service to God and others.

Q: What attracted you to this position?

A: Before this, I worked in Catholic education as a teacher, campus minister and mission-formation director. My faith is very important to me, and I am grateful to continue working in an environment where prayer and community are “North Star” values. In addition, I always had a deep admiration for women religious. I graduated from Ursuline High School in Youngstown, OH and spent a great deal of time with the Humility of Mary Sisters in northwest Pennsylvania.

Q: What makes this position so rewarding?

A: There are so many things that make this position rewarding. I feel so blessed by the relationships I'm building with the sisters. Learning about their lives and ministries inspires me. Walking with them during sensitive or difficult times is a responsibility I take very seriously. I am honored by their trust and friendship. Plus, I am profoundly blessed by their prayers! Whenever a sister tells me that she is praying for me or someone in my family, I can really feel it. I know their prayers are "powerful and effective" as said in James 5:16, heard and held by God. . . but it really feels like SNDs have a direct line to God sometimes!

Q: What are the challenges you face in this position?

A: One challenge I've faced in this position is coming to terms with how quickly things can change. None of us is promised tomorrow, but that is especially true in any healthcare setting. I have enormous respect for all healthcare workers, especially the nurses, aides, therapists and other specialists who work here in Chardon. Their empathy, dedication and resilience are truly extraordinary. I've learned so much from working alongside them. One of the biggest lessons has been to *pray*, then jump back in and do the next right thing.

Q: Describe a typical interaction with a patient.

A: There really is no typical interaction. Every sister's situation is different and so every pastoral visit is different. The most consistent thing I do is ask questions: How are you doing today? What is on your mind/heart? Is there anything you'd like me to pray for? I also strive to "listen with the ear of my heart" which usually means I must pause before I respond.

Q: What do you hope to achieve in each interaction?

A: In every interaction, I hope sisters feel truly heard and cared for. I want everyone I encounter to know I share their joys, and I love to celebrate with them. Likewise, I will listen and care if they admit to feeling tired, discouraged or frustrated. There are times when we all put on brave faces even though we are struggling. I want to be someone who others feel safe being honest with.

Q: What advice can you offer someone who is caring for a loved one at home?

A: Try to carve out time to be with your loved one in as normal a way as possible. Illness can be consuming for all involved, especially a caregiver. But the person living with illness is also probably missing the time when every conversation didn't revolve around symptoms, physical changes, medications, appointments, etc. If there are hobbies or activities that you can still enjoy together, do them. It will remind the loved one who is receiving care that they are a whole person, not just someone living with illness. And, hopefully, it will give the caregiver a bit of a break (and maybe even some joy!) too.

Q: How are you able to serve patients with dementia?

A: I think the best way I serve sisters living with dementia is by accepting them as they are. Sometimes when I interact with someone with dementia, I wish I could have known them before their diagnosis. However, the silver lining is I'm not comparing who they are now against who they used to be or what they used to be able to do. We can be radically present together, which is its own special gift. Those moments remind me that for all of us--not just people living with dementia—our titles, responsibilities and abilities are temporary gifts, but our dignity and worth in the eyes of God are eternal.

Q: What is the greatest lesson you have learned through this ministry?

A: The quote attributed to St. Teresa of Calcutta comes to mind: "We are not called to be successful, but faithful." In my role, I am not called (or able) to heal or fix anyone. I cannot erase anyone's physical or emotional pain as much as I would like to. What I can do and what I am called to do is be as present and loving as possible. I think this is true, not just for this ministry, but for much of life. We may not always be able to change the difficult circumstances our loved ones find themselves in, but if we can ease the way for each other through loving presence, then that is a very meaningful contribution.



A Servant's Heart

Michael MacIver has worn many hats in his 81 years: industrial engineer, certified public accountant, attorney, fundraiser, to name a few. But the most rewarding activity the well-spoken senior engages in today is volunteering.

Michael sets aside one day each week to volunteer at University Hospitals Ahuja Medical Center in Beachwood, OH.

"As a Eucharistic and pastoral care minister, I offer the Eucharist to hospital patients. Each patient is different, so I try to meet them where they are and that's where pastoral care enters the picture. Prayer, conversation, advice and counsel, whatever is appropriate, I try to provide. Sometimes a rosary is called for, sometimes a prayer shawl. I even offer, when appropriate, a booklet titled, 'Growing Older, Growing Wiser.' And, when needed, I contact a priest on behalf of the patient. My hope is that the hospital patients feel better when I leave than when I came in," Michael says.

A member of St. Dominic Parish in Shaker Heights, OH, Michael began his quest to find a volunteer opportunity that best aligned with his personality when he retired. "As you get older, you want to stay relevant," Michael admits. "I wanted to remain involved in this great adventure called life."

Michael's giving extends beyond volunteering his time. He and his wife of 43 years, Betty, also established three endowment funds, one each at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, High Point University in North Carolina and the Sisters of Notre Dame. They also provided for the establishment of an endowment fund at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and a contribution to a general research fund at the Cleveland Clinic, both through the use of charitable gift annuities.

"My wife and I are close friends with Sister Maureen Spillane. In fact, Sister Maureen serves as my spiritual advisor," Michael says. "We are impressed with the many diverse ministries of the Sisters of Notre Dame and happy to support their mission."

"Prayer, conversation, advice and counsel, whatever is appropriate, I try to provide. Sometimes a rosary is called for, sometimes a prayer shawl. I even offer, when appropriate, a booklet titled, 'Growing Older, Growing Wiser.'"

- Michael MacIver

In addition to being an SND annual donor, Michael can also be seen carrying the nine-foot wooden cross at the opening of the liturgy on the day of the annual Partners in Mission celebration.

For individuals considering donating their time as a volunteer, Michael suggests praying to discern where God may be calling you to serve.

Because, as the Bible states in Matthew 9:37, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few," Michael strongly encourages retirees and others to look for opportunities to serve.



Michael MacIver

A Healing Presence

By Sister Mary Joell Overman



Sister Mary Joell Overman served as Chief Executive Officer of St. Claire Medical Center from 1969 to 1983 and currently serves on the SND Eastern Kentucky Foundation Board.

Numerous accounts of Jesus' acts of healing are found in the New Testament. In the first chapter of the Gospel of Mark, the ministry of Jesus is characterized as threefold – a ministry of preaching, teaching and healing. Similar passages are found in Luke and Matthew. No less than 58 references are found in the Gospels and Acts. The ministry of healing was important to Jesus as signified by the fact that one-seventh of the verses in the Gospels have to do with His healing miracles and His teaching in connection with them.

Why did Jesus heal people? The most important reason was that He cared; He suffered when others suffered. The root meaning of compassion is just this: to know suffering together. He could not care without wanting to show mercy and to help. The example of the compassionate Christ has always been held up for imitation.

Church history accounts tell us that the early Christians continued the example of the compassionate Christ by their concern for the welfare of others. Known as deacons and deaconesses, they gave special attention to those who needed help: the sick, the widowed, the orphaned. They were unique for institutionalizing nursing and making it serve as a formal religious witness

Essentially, the early Christians expanded nursing service, making it available to all persons in need, regardless of creed or social position.



Sister Dion Horrigan
with Sister Lucia Haas

to the world. Essentially, the early Christians expanded nursing service, making it available to all persons in need, regardless of creed or social position. What emerged was the development of a nursing ministry among Christians motivated by love for Christ to render service to people in pain. Providing care for the indigent by hospitals and long-term care facilities today traces its Christian origin to the early Church.

The Sisters of Notre Dame carried this ancient tradition into the hills of Appalachia, where for more than 60 years they served the sick, the poor and the forgotten — not because it was easy, but because it was right.

A quick survey of Church history reveals for us that healing has been and will always remain an essential Christian ministry. This revelation is known to us in three ways:

- Through miraculous cures that occur throughout the world, scientifically validated
- Through healings as a result of prayer, anointing and laying on of hands, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
- Through the ministry of curing, better known as healthcare

Throughout the history of the Sisters of Notre Dame, our sisters have engaged in healthcare ministries across the United States. Active in administration, nursing, pharmacies, physical therapy, pastoral care, food service management, mental health counseling, hospice care and more, we have been and continue to strive to be a healing presence for those in need.

Praying, visiting the sick, sharing the Eucharist, evangelizing, visiting nursing homes or simply being present are ways of following the example of Christ. I invite you to be a healing presence to your family members, neighbors and others in your community. Find your inspiration from the person of Jesus Christ and the Gospel that He preached. He revealed to us His Father as the One who loves, who cares and who heals His people.

In the News

SND USA Installation





More than 300 sisters from around the U.S. gathered in Chardon, OH on July 5th for Mass and a luncheon to celebrate the installation of the new SND USA provincial leadership team. Srs. Dianne Rumschlag, Patricia Garrahan, Susan Kusz, Marla Monahan and Valerie Roxburgh will serve the province for the next six years. Congratulations to all the sisters serving in new roles.

Women's Religious Archives Collaborative (WRAC)



A wonderful new addition in northeast Ohio is the Women Religious Archives Collaborative (WRAC) Heritage Center. Located in Cleveland, OH, the Center will be a place of study and celebration, housing the archives of more than 75 congregations of women religious in a state-of-the art facility. WRAC will make them accessible for research in person and online. The Center will also present public exhibits and events and interactive digital programs that honor the unique contributions of women religious to their communities and the country. The Center is scheduled to open in spring 2027.



Notre Dame Chicken BBQ

Fun, entertainment and culinary delights were enjoyed at the annual Notre Dame BBQ and Boutique on the Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin campus on September 27. New to the annual event this year were children's games. We hope to see you back next year along with some new friends!





California Wellness Fest

The Sisters of Notre Dame participate in the annual Conejo Senior Volunteer Program Wellness Fest. Some attendees shared fascinating memories of SNDs from years past. One 90-year-old woman had attended Notre Dame Academy Elementary and fondly remembered Sister Mary William Gara and Sister Mary Giovanne Vidoni. Another participant was a 1970 graduate of St. Matthias High in Huntington Park who recalled two special teachers, Sister Mary Kenneth Hegler and Sister Mary Sheila (formerly Sister Mary La Tier) Fay. The SNDs look forward to continuing the new friendships made at this event.



Noboru Honda Collects Cans to Raise Money for St. Julie's School in Buseesa, Uganda

In 2005, Sister Jane McHugh returned from her pioneering days in Uganda, and began teaching at St. Dominic's in Eagle Rock. Her missionary heart and 10 years of experience in Uganda inspired her students to raise funds for their "sister school," St. Julie's in Buseesa.



Noboru Honda has attended St. Dominic's since preschool, and as a 5th and 6th grader, he had Sister Jane as his religion teacher. In 2024 two SNDs from Uganda visited, and after attending their presentation, Noboru decided to earn money for St. Julie's. He told his parents that he was going to collect cans and bottles for recycling and donate the funds to St. Julie's.

Sister Jane reports, "He made his first donation in 2025 and recently gave another $120. Noboru is a great kid, works hard in school, is very polite and is well-liked. As a well-rounded person, he golfs, participates in the Junior Academic Decathlon, sings in the choir and is a Sunday altar server! Please keep him and his parents in your prayers as he strives to become the saint he wants to be."

SND Recently Appointed North American Representative for Talitha Kum

Special congratulations to Sister Gina Marie Blunck who was recently appointed the North American Representative for Talitha Kum, the International Network of Consecrated Life Against Human Trafficking.

The phrase "Talitha Kum" originates from Mark 5:41 when Jesus spoke these words to raise Jairus' 12-year-old daughter from the dead. The organization is a global umbrella network of more than 6,000 Catholic sisters, collaborators and friends. Its mission is to end human trafficking and exploitation through collaborative initiatives: prevention, protection, social reintegration and rehabilitation of survivors. It includes more than 60 local networks in 90 countries.

Sister Gina Marie says, "Being appointed as the Regional Representative for North America for the Talitha Kum International Coordination Committee is both an honor and a profound responsibility. It invites me to listen deeply — to the voices of those affected by human trafficking and to the wisdom of the many individuals and networks already committed to this mission. I see this role not as speaking for others, but as strengthening connections and amplifying collective efforts rooted in dignity and justice."

Sister Gina Marie currently serves as the Executive Director of the Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters and is also an Executive Board Member of the Alliance to End Human Trafficking. The SNDs are grateful to her for representing our congregational commitment to end trafficking around the world.

SOAR Grant Enables Purchase and Installation of Thousand Oaks, CA Generator



The Sisters of Notre Dame are deeply grateful to SOAR! (Support Our Aging Religious) for a $50,000 grant enabling the acquisition and installation of a generator.

Notre Dame Center in Thousand Oaks, CA includes assisted living for Sisters of Notre Dame who need supportive care. The location of the Center is in a fire-prone area of southern California. Recently, California has experienced increased, intense and record-breaking wildfires, many caused by electrical equipment failure combined with drought conditions. Strong winds may topple power lines, cause other damage or trigger utility-associated wildfires. Acquisition of a back-up emergency power source was identified as a critical need to enable sisters to age in place, and if necessary, receive more extensive post-surgery medical or end-of-life care. Over the years, SOAR! has provided much-needed funding for the needs of aging and retired SNDs around the country. The SNDs offer grateful prayers for SOAR's many donors.



In the News

Award Winning Educators



Educator Sister Frances Marie Penwell received a 2026 Golden Apple Award from the Diocese of Toledo. The Golden Apple is a prestigious award given to exceptional educators who devote their lives to teaching in Catholic schools.

Sister Frances Marie has spent more than 40 years teaching and has served as a Sister of Notre Dame for over 50 years. She has spent the past 14 years in middle school education. She currently teaches 8th grade at Queen of Apostles School in Toledo.

Honorary Diploma, Teacher of the Year and Hall of Fame Inductee

Retiring from her teaching position at Delphos St. John's High School this year, Sister Elayne Bockey was recognized at the Blue Jays' 2026 commencement, receiving her own honorary diploma. Sister Elayne was a student at Delphos St. John from 1948 - 1956 but left her hometown after eighth grade to answer God's call and enter Notre Dame Academy in Toledo as an aspirant.



Sister Elayne Bockey



Sister Irene Gerdeman

Teacher of the Year and Hall of Fame Inductee Sister Irene Gerdeman was recognized as the Teacher of the Year at St. Francis Academy in Gainesville, FL. Sister Irene was also inducted into the school's Hall of Fame. As she enters retirement, we celebrate her 57 years of faithful service, dedication to Catholic education and her lasting impact on generations of students.

Gatherings-on-the-Go: Connecting Communities

Sisters in the Toledo Region have been hosting Gatherings-on-the-Go at parishes where the Sisters of Notre Dame currently serve or have ministered in the past. These gatherings provide a joyful opportunity for sisters and parishioners to reconnect, share memories and celebrate the relationships built through years of ministry.

The events have been uplifting for all involved, allowing parish families and sisters to reminisce while also introducing new people to the mission and impact of the Sisters of Notre Dame in their communities.

A special thank you to the parishes that have hosted gatherings: St. Mary (Leipsic), St. Wendelin (Fostoria), St. John the Evangelist (Delphos), St. Paul (Norwalk), Christ the King (Toledo) and St. Joseph (Erie, MI).

Interested in including your parish as a stop on the Gatherings-on-the-Go tour? Contact krochelle@sndusa.org to learn more.



St. John the Evangelist (Delphos)



St. Paul (Norwalk)



St. Joseph (Erie, MI)



Christ the King (Toledo)

St. Charles Community Brings New Life to the St. Joseph Heights Property

St. Charles Community, a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Notre Dame and a trusted leader in senior services in northern KY for over 65 years, is proud to announce plans for a new senior living community on the historic grounds of St. Joseph Heights, formerly home to the Sisters of Notre Dame in Covington, KY. This development will honor the enduring legacy of the sisters by continuing their mission of service through a vibrant, supportive community for senior adults and their families.

Being completed in phases, the building project will feature a selection of thoughtfully designed one- and two- bedroom independent living cottages, a Community Center, resource center, café, activity spaces and meeting rooms. Plans also include educational sessions and intergenerational programs where seniors can connect, thrive and find on-going support.

St. Charles is humbled to begin this expansion of their ministry on sacred ground enriched by the prayers and lives of the Sisters of Notre Dame. With a deep sense of purpose and respect, St. Charles is committed to serving senior adults and their families for generations to come.

Celebrating Sister Maria Therese Schappert, SND

We join the Notre Dame Urban Education Center in celebrating Sister Maria Therese Schappert, SND, as she retires from her role as executive director after nearly eight years of faithful leadership.

In recognition of her remarkable ministry and lasting impact on the Covington community, the City of Covington proclaimed June 25, 2026, as “Sister Maria Therese Day.” The proclamation honors her compassionate leadership, her commitment to Catholic education and the countless lives she has touched through her service.



A lifelong educator, Sister Maria Therese has faithfully shared her gifts as a teacher, principal and leader for more than three decades, where all people are welcomed and valued. Congratulations to Sister Maria Therese on this well-deserved recognition!

A LASTING TRIBUTE



Sister Marian Coughlin
Formerly Sister Mary St. Patrick
July 19, 1928 – March 14, 2026
Chardon, OH



Sister Mary Tereze Deye
February 24, 1942 – June 24, 2026
Covington, KY



Sister Mary Francis Dirr
January 9, 1922 – June 27, 2026
Covington, KY



Sister Mary Corese Floyd
August 14, 1930 – June 4, 2026
Toledo, OH



Sister Mary Bryan Gabel
June 2, 1938 – April 23, 2026
Toledo, OH



Sister Mary Theresa Gebura
Formerly Sister Mary Magdalae
March 29, 1935 – June 4, 2026
Chardon, OH



Sister Maryann Humenik
Formerly Sister Mary Ann Joseph
July 29, 1929 – July 19, 2026
Chardon, OH



Sister Mary Margaret Kerr
Formerly Sister Mary St. Maurus
March 3, 1934 – March 6, 2026
Chardon, OH



Sister Carol Marie Klaine
Formerly Sister Mary Andree
January 11, 1932 – May 9, 2026
Covington, KY

May our deceased sisters rejoice in God's everlasting love.

Please visit sndusa.org/tributes for their complete obituaries.



Sister Mary Lenette Marcello
Formerly Sister Mary Sherise
February 23, 1949 – March 11, 2026
Chardon, OH



Sister Mary Antonee Pfenning
November 12, 1945 – June 6, 2026
Chardon, OH



Sister Mary Ruth Riehle
Formerly Sister Mary Rose Emma
April 19, 1930 – May 19, 2026
Covington, KY



Sister Mary Alice Slowey
Formerly Sister Mary Immaculae
March 25, 1933 – July 20, 2026
Chardon, OH

Lord, grant eternal peace to these Sisters of Notre Dame who served you with faith and joy. May their loved ones be comforted by our prayerful remembrance.

To read more about these sisters, please visit sndusa.org.

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Thousand Oaks: 1776 Hendrix Ave., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
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Toledo Office Prayer Line
prayersTO@sndusa.org

Covington Office Prayer Line
859.291.2040 or prayersKY@sndusa.org

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