



That all may
know the Savior

SISTERS OF THE DIVINE SAVIOR

Salvatorian News

Walk with Us

September marks a significant event in the life of our Congregation, when delegates from 25 countries will gather in Rome for our General Chapter. This pivotal meeting will evaluate the past six years and set the course for the next six. The delegates, representing Sisters from units in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Europe, and the U.S., will communicate in six languages, underscoring the global reach of our mission.

Despite the diverse viewpoints of our respective governments, we, as Salvatorian Sisters, are bound together by a strong sense of unity and common values. These shared principles not only enable us to collaborate for the greater good but also foster a deep sense of belonging and shared purpose, particularly in our mission to advocate for the underprivileged in all corners of the world.

The theme of our Chapter, "Walking Together," symbolizes our unity as Salvatorian Sisters. We strive to walk alongside all those we serve through our diverse ministries. We are deeply aware that YOU walk with us! Your role as Salvatorian benefactors is indispensable, and we are filled with gratitude for your contributions that keep our mission responsive to evolving needs.

We count on your prayers for our delegates so that the goals we set for the coming years will help create a more just and compassionate world that reflects the goodness and kindness of Jesus, our Divine Savior.



With a Grateful Heart, I am

S. Jean Schafer SDS

Sister Jean Schafer SDS
Provincial Leader

Our mission is to make known the goodness and kindness of Jesus and to foster an awareness of a loving God...

She Came from the East



Sr. Mirjam Goeksun, SDS, is visiting with us this summer from the Holy Land to conduct mission appeals in churches from Buffalo, New York to Sioux City, Iowa, as well as many other places in between. She offers her first-hand account of her life as a long-time missionary in the Middle East and the vital work the Sisters of the Divine Savior carry out there to give a voice to the voiceless.

Sr. Mirjam was born in Turkey and grew up in Austria. For the past 28 years, her service has included eight years of teaching and pastoral care work in Syria, followed by 17 years in a Salvatorian school in Nazareth, Israel. Currently, she helps migrants in Amman, Jordan.

Despite the troubling times in the Middle East, the Sisters' work is a beacon of hope. They experience daily the challenges of war—the tension, the aggression, and the fears of the people in their surroundings. The Salvatorian Sisters School in Nazareth, with its 1,500 students aged 4 to 18, is a testament to their impact. Eighty-six percent of the students are Christians, while the balance are Muslim. The Sisters' daily efforts to foster a spirit of peace and concord among them will pay a peace dividend into the future. The school has never experienced the kind of violence that inevitably erupts in other schools in Israel, a testament to the Sisters' impact on promoting peace and justice.

In Amman, Jordan, Sr. Mirjam, and the other Sisters play a crucial role in ministering to Asian and African migrant women. Most of these women have been trafficked into the country with an empty promise of good-paying jobs. They find themselves trapped in abusive households from which they cannot escape without the help of the Sisters to obtain traveling documents that will permit them to leave the country. In cooperation with human rights organizations, the Sisters help the women pay for temporary housing while they wait for permission to leave Jordan and return to their homelands. Their role in helping these women in great need is vital and deserves our compassion and support.

The generosity of goodhearted people allows the Sisters to continue their challenging but meaningful ministry of helping women in great need. Although small in stature, Sr. Mirjam is a dynamo who tirelessly and joyfully engages in the mighty work of life-changing ministries that help heal a broken world. ●

2024 Woman of Faith

Keyes promotes causes that strengthen children and families

If the value of our lives is ever estimated in terms of the good that others admire in us, then Christine Keyes will have no trouble measuring up. A tireless and dedicated volunteer for the causes and organizations about which she cares deeply, Christine sees her service to her community as a divine calling. In particular, Christine focuses on promoting causes that strengthen children and families, no matter their social or economic backgrounds. As Ann Maguire, the 2013 Woman of Faith Award honoree shared, Christine's "faith-inspired vision for her life leads her to volunteer to make the organizations she serves better and stronger institutions and ultimately enables them to expand their missions to serve more children."

Christine's journey of service began in the most natural of ways—when she stepped up to help the organizations that touched her own family, including St. John Vianney parish in Brookfield, the Elmbrook United Soccer Club, and Marquette University High School. She has also faithfully served Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, and Divine Savior Holy Angels High School. Yet, as Ann Maguire points out, Christine does not merely volunteer to "help out." Instead, she willingly accepts

increasing levels of responsibility and leadership—all with a servant's heart.

One example of this leadership is her service to the Notre Dame School of Milwaukee (NDSM), on whose board she has served since 2018, including a term as the board Chair. Yet, her service to NDSM is not limited to attending regularly-scheduled meetings and checking off agenda items. She has chaired their annual auction fundraiser for three years running, volunteered in the classroom, mentored an NDSM student and recruited

tutors and mentors for other students, and she continues to serve on NDSM's Advancement Committee.

NDSM is a Catholic school on Milwaukee's near south side that serves 700 children—most of whom are economically disadvantaged first- or second-generation immigrants—and the commitment of volunteers is crucial to the school's success. Patrick Landry, NDSM's president, praises Christine's volunteer efforts because the school depends on community members like Christine who "believe in the power of education to transform lives and who invest in that mission with all their spirit." Ann Maguire chimes in on this note to say that Christine is driven

by her "personal conviction that allowing more children to have access to a quality Catholic education is transformative."

It is Christine's faith that is the foundation of her pursuit of service to her community. "She is an outstanding example of the Jesuit motto of being 'for others.' She lives her faith authentically and proudly," shared Fr. Michael Marco, SJ, president of Marquette University High School (MUHS). Christine has served on the MUHS Board of Trustees since 2019 and chairs the Development Committee. She is also active with the MUHS Mothers Guild and Alumni Mothers Club, organizations in which she has served in leadership roles.

Indeed, Christine is recognized for living a life of virtue and Gospel-centered values. As Patrick Landry expressed, Christine's zeal for service models Luke 12:48, in which Jesus teaches His disciples, "Every one to whom much is given, of him will much be required." In addition to her indefatigable contributions to the organizations she serves, she is known for her infectious volunteerism and her spirit of welcoming and connection with others. As one supporter of her nomination for the Woman of Faith Award noted, Christine "has an uncanny ability to have people feel like they belong, to make them feel loved, allowing them to be comfortable amongst others. . . . She keenly observes the needs of others and recognizes that she has the capacity and the talent to serve and improve their lives. Guided by the teachings of Jesus, she pursues this serving role with respect, love and compassion."

Based on the strength of the support from all who enthusiastically nominated Christine Keyes, the Sisters of the Divine Savior are honored to joyfully present her with the 2024 Woman of Faith Award. ●



"Christine's zeal for service models Luke 12:48, in which Jesus teaches His disciples, 'Every one to whom much is given, of him will much be required.'"

Celebrating 2024 Jubilarians

□ SISTER ELLEN SINCLAIR



Sr. Ellen grew up in the Diocese of Buffalo and graduated from Notre Dame High School in Batavia, New York. She attended the State University of New York at Buffalo where she earned a bachelor's degree in political science as well as a law degree. After profession, she earned a master's degree in theology from Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology. Prior to becoming a Salvatorian, Sr. Ellen served as an Army Judge Advocate (lawyer) and a civilian attorney. Since vows,

she has used her legal skills in a variety of positions, including her current service with the public defender's office. She has ministered as Provincial Treasurer since 2009, and she has served on the Provincial Team and Joint Leadership Group (2009-2022); the International Finance Commission (2017-present); and the UNANIMA International Board (2009-present). One of her favorite Scriptures is Jeremiah 29:11 – "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

□ SISTER ELIZABETH VETTER



Sr. Elizabeth (Betty) Vetter was born in Wausau, Wisconsin and first met the Sisters of the Divine Savior at St. Therese Grade School in Rothschild, Wisconsin. She made her first profession of vows on August 13, 1964, in Milwaukee. Sr. Betty earned her bachelor's degree in nursing from Marquette University School of Nursing in 1968 and her master's degree from The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC in 1976. Later, she completed certification as a

hospice and palliative care nurse. She worked at St. Mary's Hospital in Wausau for 12 years before moving on to St. Mary's Nursing Home in Milwaukee. She spent five years as director of an associate's degree level nursing program and lead instructor on the Cheyenne River Sioux Indian Reservation in Eagle Butte, South Dakota. That experience led her to the missions of India and the Philippines for six years. Sr. Betty has served as a hospice nurse for 30 years and was blessed to be with her parents in the last years of their lives. These past 11 years, Sr. Betty has been the wellness coordinator for the Salvatorian Sisters of the North American Province and continues to work full-time providing health care for the Sisters.

□ SISTER KARLYN CAULEY



Sr. Karlyn was born in Champaign, Illinois and attended Divine Savior High School (class of 1961) where she first met the Salvatorian Sisters and resolved to become a Sister after high school. First, she graduated from Marquette University and UW-Madison, where she earned a master's degree in art education. Afterward, she taught in grade schools as well as at Divine Savior High School. Encouraged by the leadership team of the Sisters, Sr. Karlyn became a full-time artist and developed the Sisters'

Art Gallery on the 4th floor of Divine Savior Holy Angels High School. She has served on the vocation/formation committee and the Board of Hadley Terrace, where she also lives and represents the mission of the Sisters to the elderly African American residents. She attends St. Pius X Parish in Wauwatosa and is also the ecumenical associate at Immanuel Presbyterian Church on Milwaukee's east side.

□ SISTER CLARA CÁCERES



Born Gloria Beatriz in Bogota, Colombia in 1938, Sr. Clara attended the SDS school in Bogota, where she came to know Salvatorians Mother Ottilia Haeckel and Mother Bathilde Feder. At the age of 18, Sr. Clara entered the convent and studied at various universities in Colombia, where she earned a teaching diploma. In 1993, Sr. Clara transferred to the North American Province, and her first school assignment in Milwaukee was teaching conversational Spanish at

Divine Savior Holy Angels High School. She later taught Spanish at St. Jude Elementary School, Sacred Heart School of Theology, Bruce Guadalupe School, and Mother of Good Counsel School. Her impact on her students was profound, with one recalling, "Sister Clara was the finest teacher I ever had."

The teacher in Sr. Clara remained vibrant even after she retired from the classroom. She continued teaching Spanish to adults, sisters, and young men in Salvatorian formation. Adult students professed to Sr. Clara's coming alive while teaching in a way not often seen outside of her role as a devoted instructor.

Jubilee greetings and well-wishes may be mailed to:

Sr. _____, SDS
c/o Mission Advancement Office
4311 N. 100th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53222

A gift to our mission meaningfully honors a Jubilarian!
Donations may be mailed to the address above, or made
online at: sistersofthedivinesavior.org/donate-tribute



Fluttering Contentment

Sr. Jean Marie Hauck, SDS brings the awe-inspiring beauty of nature to life daily by raising and releasing butterflies. One of these exquisite creatures, a stunning black swallowtail, emerged recently and was set free in the courtyard after breakfast time.

Later that day, Sr. Jean Marie released a stunning group of five black swallowtails, each with a wingspan of about two inches, that had also recently emerged from their cocoons. Their black wings with rows of yellow spots, separated by blue scaling glistening in the sunlight, is a true testament to the beauty of nature.

It is a sight to see as she tenderly coaxes the butterflies onto her finger and guides each delicate creature to a flower, which provides a resting spot for them to acclimate to their new home and decide upon their flight path. ●



Lovingly Remembered

When Sr. Jenada Fanetti, SDS heard of a new opportunity for parents of miscarried babies to have their little ones buried free of charge in the cemeteries of the parishes she serves, she was immediately intrigued. “This is a whole group of people we have not previously ministered to,” shared Sr. Jenada.

The idea was first sparked at an archdiocesan conference in 2018, when attendees were challenged to consider how to make free burial space available for children who had passed away as a result of miscarriage, which is defined as the end of a life before 20 weeks’ gestation. Kryz Crawley—director of the nonprofit, pro-life healthcare center in Waukesha County called Life’s Connection—attended that archdiocesan conference to ask the attendees to share with their parishioners that “if you are suffering a miscarriage, you’re not alone; the Church and the archdiocese are here for you.”

As the Pastoral Care Minister at Our Lady of the Holy Land Catholic Parish, Sr. Jenada knew of many families who would benefit from this ministry. She related, “I do ministry to the elderly, and I can’t tell you how many of those people have told me they had one miscarriage or two or three miscarriages, or their mother had a miscarriage. Years ago, there was no place for them.”

Then-pastor of Our Lady of the Holy Land, Fr. Gary Wagner, O.F.M. Cap., eagerly supported the initiative and encouraged the taking up of a collection to designate space in parish cemeteries for the remains of miscarried babies. Our Lady of the Holy Land comprises Holy Cross Church in Mount Calvary, St. Cloud and St. Joseph parishes in St. Cloud, St. Mary parish in New Holstein, and St. John parish in Malone.



The idea had already been spearheaded by other parishes: St. Jerome parish in Oconomowoc has made free burial space available for miscarried babies for a number of years, including for non-parishioners and non-Catholics. In addition, St. Jerome’s pastors have made themselves available to conduct graveside services. St. Francis Borgia Parish in Cedarburg similarly accommodates grieving families with free burial space for any baby, whether miscarried or full-term. Brian Willbrandt, Cemetery Coordinator for the parish shared that “it really means something to these families to have a Christian burial. . . . This is a local option for families to have their babies near them. I think it means a lot that they can come and visit.”

To create her outreach ministry, Sr. Jenada received training and guidance from Kryz Crawley of Life’s Connection. She also relied on the expertise of other archdiocesan parishes that already offered similar programs. With a heart filled with compassion for these families, Sr. Jenada created a prayer service that families can conduct by themselves at the gravesite or with her assistance or that of a priest. Burial is conducted completely free of charge to grieving families of miscarried babies who live within the geographical boundaries of Our Lady of the Holy Land parishes, Catholic and non-Catholic alike. Each burial receives a cross as a grave marker so that parents can easily find their child’s grave, where they can visit to pray and reflect.

The response from the parishioners of Our Lady of the Holy Land was overwhelmingly positive, Sr. Jenada said. “Many of these women have had miscarriages. I think what touched them was this was a reality in their lives, or the lives of someone they loved, and there was no response or anyone ministering to the individual at the time,” she said. “They were so happy to know that we are going to be responding to this need.” ●



The Sisters of the Divine Savior invite you to join us in honoring

CHRISTINE KEYES

***DEDICATED SERVANT LEADER
with a HEART for CHARITY***

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024
7:00 PM CDT**

**SDS Community House
4311 North 100th Street, Milwaukee**

Award Presentation followed by Reception and Refreshments

RSVP by **September 13** to attend this free event:

Email: missionadvancement@salvatoriansisters.org

or Phone: **(414) 466-7414**

In Memoriam



Patrice Colletti was born on August 18, 1962, in North Bellmore, New York and joined our Congregation on July 20, 1986. She made her first vows on October 1, 1989, and her final profession was made on July 31, 1994, all in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

After obtaining a B.A. degree in Elementary Education with a focus on special education and early childhood education from St. Elizabeth College, Patrice joined the Sisters of the Divine Savior. Following this, Sr. Patrice commenced her teaching career at the Tiospa Zina Tribal School in Sisseton, South Dakota. There, she not only taught, but also became a cherished member of the community and a source of guidance for numerous students.

In 1992, Sr. Patrice earned a master of arts degree in educational leadership and administration from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, and she later was awarded a master of science degree in business management with additional nonprofit management certification from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2005.

Aside from teaching, Sr. Patrice actively helped direct several nonprofit organizations, including the Milwaukee Achiever Program, the Parent Education

Project of Wisconsin, and the Agape Community Center. She tirelessly advocated against human trafficking, campaigned for environmental responsibility, and fought injustice. She served as a delegate to the General Chapter and played a role in establishing the international Salvatorian Anti-Human Trafficking Committee. Having lost her hearing in early adulthood, she became a passionate advocate for disability rights.

In 2015, Sr. Patrice returned to Sisseton, where her mission was to implement the Kateri Initiative, a pastoral ministry focused on fostering culturally sensitive interactions. This was a crucial step in promoting understanding and respect for the local culture and traditions. She dedicated herself to providing pastoral training and experiences for increased cross-cultural competence within the Province. In Sisseton, she taught at the Tiospa Zina Tribal School as well as mentored teachers and supported the tribal nation's efforts at self-determination and sovereignty. In 2022, she served on the Provincial Team on a part-time basis while continuing her ministry in Sisseton.

Sr. Patrice was a strong advocate for the art of listening and dialogue, believing it to be an intentional choice that transforms both the listener and the speaker. Her

outstanding talent for photography allowed her to capture the beauty of everyday life, with many of her photos being used to create greeting cards and online collections for reflection and enjoyment.

For many years, Sr. Patrice battled chronic back pain. In 2022, she was diagnosed with chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, a condition she faced with resilience by finding ways to work around its limitations. On April 26, 2024, she learned she had inoperable inflammatory breast cancer, for which she chose to receive palliative care. Despite her challenges, she continued to inspire others with her strength and determination. She was hospitalized on May 29 of this year and, on May 30, at the age of 61 and in the 34th year of her profession, she passed into eternal life.

Prior to her passing, members of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate gathered to perform the high honor of a naming ceremony for her. In their culture, a naming ceremony is a significant event that symbolizes respect and honor. The name they gave her is Oici mani Waakiya yuha win – “bringing help as she travels.” They chose this name to reflect Sr. Patrice’s lifelong commitment to helping others, even as she journeyed through her own challenges. In his letter to the Tiospa Zina Tribal School community, school superintendent Craig Peterson summed up a heartfelt tribute to Sr. Patrice: “As we remember Sr. Patrice, let us celebrate her life and the incredible impact she had on each of us. Let us carry forward her legacy of love, kindness, and faith. Though she may no longer be with us in body, her spirit will continue to guide us, and her teachings will forever remain in our hearts. Rest in peace, Sr. Patrice. Your light will never dim, and your love will never fade. We are eternally grateful for the gift of your life.” ●

SDS Mission Advancement Office

4311 N. 100th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53222-1393
414-466-7414

missionadvancement@salvatoriansisters.org

Tim Kasza
Director of Mission Advancement