



That all may
know the Savior

SISTERS OF THE DIVINE SAVIOR

Salvatorian News

Walk with Us

As we take a moment to reflect on our journey since the arrival of the Sisters of the Divine Savior in the United States in 1895, we feel a deep sense of gratitude and awe for the many ways the Salvatorians have answered the call to service. Our Sisters sought to advance the mission of the Church and to help transform society through education and health care. Our commitment to minister to the most marginalized has not only transformed the lives of those we've walked with but has also blessed us over these many years.

For 130 years, our Sisters have been privileged to engage in transformative work in healthcare, education, and ministry. From founding hospitals and schools to engaging in social justice initiatives, every endeavor has been rooted in our mission to reveal God's love to all. As many of our Sisters enter their later years, they reflect on this legacy, cherishing memories of lives touched and communities uplifted. Their dedication exemplifies the spirit of our founder, Blessed Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan, and inspires us to continue our mission with zeal and compassion.

Today we walk alongside committed laity and organizations that address the changing needs of our society. We are concerned for those who lack adequate healthcare. We promote educational settings that instill values of compassion, scholarship and leadership in young women. Through outreach and voluntarism we contribute to building relationships among diverse populations of people, enabling them to witness to goodness and kindness in everyday activities.

Being a global Salvatorian community, our prayers and resources support our Sisters working throughout Europe, South America, Asia and Africa. In many of these settings we touch the poorest and neediest, providing education, healthcare, social

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

Empowering Change: Dasher Moxie Displayed During Lent



Students at Divine Savior Holy Angels (DSHA), nicknamed Dashers, demonstrated remarkable community spirit during Lent by partnering with the Salvatorian Sisters to raise a collaborative total of \$65,000, nearly double their initial goal of \$33,000. This impressive fundraising initiative will directly support the Social Foundation of Mary of the Apostles (SFMA) in Colombia, which is operated by the Salvatorian Sisters. Their mission focuses on empowering women and transforming lives through vocational training programs.

"At DSHA, the values of service and compassion are at the core of everything we do. Our students, faculty, and staff exemplified this commitment by addressing the urgent needs of women, especially single mothers, in the Colombian cities of Cali and Quibdó," said Stephanie Monson, the school's Director of Campus Ministry. "The work of the Sisters is crucial in creating sustainable change in these communities, and the DSHA community has wholeheartedly rallied around this mission."

Throughout the Lenten season, the DSHA campus was filled with enthusiasm and activity, culminating in a lively Lenten Student Auction at the DSHA Commons. Students eagerly participated, bidding on a diverse array of unique items, from beautifully handcrafted goods to exclusive experiences like 'Breakfast with the DSHA Science Department.' This Lenten initiative not only generated excitement but also fostered a wonderful sense of compassion and unity among students as they came together for a noble cause—empowering women in Colombia.

Jon Melis, a DSHA Science teacher and auction chair, stated, "The success of this year's campaign not only exceeded our financial expectations but also deepened the bond between DSHA students and the Salvatorian Sisters. Together, we are ensuring that the vital resources needed to provide education and support to women in Colombia are available. With the funds raised, the SFMA can continue its impactful work, fostering economic stability and helping to create a brighter future for women and their families."

This outstanding result reflects the hard work, creativity, and passion of both the DSHA and Salvatorian Sisters communities. Together, we have made

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2025 Woman of Faith

Reine Assana: A Radiant Beacon of Faith and Service

In the vibrant heart of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Reine Assana shines as a powerful symbol of faith and unwavering dedication to service. Originating from Ziguinchor, Senegal, Reine's transformative journey took a profound turn during her return to her hometown in 2015. Eagerly, she sought to witness a church built on the land her parents had generously donated to the community. However, to her dismay, she found a gathering of devoted worshippers in the open air, their humble altar merely a table adorned with care, surrounded by the elements of nature.

"The faithful came to worship with their chairs, and the altar was just a table nicely dressed," Reine reflected, her voice rich with emotion. This poignant scene sparked a deep resolve within her to complete the church project—an endeavor that would not only uplift her home community but also honor the legacy of her parents, who embodied a spirit of love and service without formal theological training.

Being the youngest of 16 children, Reine drew inspiration from her parents' dedication to their neighborhood and faith. Following this path, she embarked on a remarkable journey to the United States, where she earned her master's in communication at Marquette University and later achieved her master's in theological studies from Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology in 2020. This educational foundation empowered her to

embark on a mission to unite African American Catholics and cultivate understanding between African and African American communities.

Reine plays a vital role as the public relations assistant for the National Association of African Catholics in the US (NAACUS) and serves as the national advisor to the Senegalese Apostolate—a crucial liaison with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' sub-committee on Pastoral Care for Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers. Her work reflects a profound commitment to healing the painful history that separated African Americans from their roots. "I believe that Africans and African Americans are the same people," she passionately expressed. "Our African American brothers and sisters were taken from the motherland, losing vital cultural values in that painful journey."



"Reine is a living testament to what it means to walk in faith and live in service to others. Her actions, both seen and unseen, bear witness to a deep and abiding relationship with God. Though her faith shines brightly to all who meet her, Reine remains humble, believing she is simply doing God's will—nothing more, nothing less."

Shanendra Johnson
Director of Urban Ministry
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

In her pivotal role with the African Ministry of the Archdiocese, Reine fosters collaboration and community through initiatives like the Lenten Day of Reflection, encouraging dialogue and support across cultural lines within the Catholic faith. Yet, her impact extends far beyond this. She is devoted to supporting African priests and seminarians through financial contributions toward their theological education and evangelization efforts. Understanding the immense challenges they face in adapting to a new environment, Reine ensures they feel a profound sense of belonging within

the local community. "These individuals have devoted their lives to serving the Lord, often sacrificing promising careers," she stated. "It is vital for them to know that they are not alone, and that we stand beside them."

At Blessed Savior Parish, Reine's energy invigorates the spiritual community, as she engages in numerous faith-based organizations, including the African Catholic Ministry Committee and the Black Catholic Ministry Commission. Her involvement underscores her commitment to fostering inclusivity and cultural appreciation within the Church.

Her remarkable influence reaches beyond religious services into the broader community as well. Reine played a crucial role in founding the Milwaukee African Women's Association (MAWA), providing a supportive network for women seeking a sense of belonging far from home. Additionally, she spearheaded the organization of the 2024 African Cultural Festival, an event that not only celebrates African heritage but also raises essential funds for educational programs benefiting refugee families in Milwaukee. This festival serves as a vibrant platform for community bonding and cultural exchange, enriching the social fabric of Milwaukee while promoting education for immigrant families.

Reine's resilience and determination are especially noteworthy as she navigates the intricate balance of raising her children while actively contributing to the community and furthering her education. "I continue to marvel at her ability to juggle her responsibilities while serving others," shared a fellow parishioner. "Her spirit is truly awe-inspiring."

Reine Assana is the embodiment of the Woman of Faith Award, her life a powerful narrative of commitment and purpose. By uniting cultures, addressing the needs of marginalized communities, and uplifting those around her, she exemplifies the essence of Christian love

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Celebrating 2025 Jubilarians

SR. DARLENE PIENSCHKE



Sister Darlene, formerly Sr. Aaron, embodies compassion and unwavering dedication. Most recently she served as the Director of Mission and Spiritual Care at St. Anne's Salvatorian Campus in Milwaukee. With a rich background as an educator and missionary, she has spent years nurturing both spiritual and physical well-being. Her diverse experiences range from teaching at prominent universities to serving impoverished communities in the Amazon of

Brazil, where she provided vital health services and pastoral care. Joining St. Anne's in 2011, Sr. Darlene spent years fostering God's love among residents, their families, and staff. She views her work as a companioning ministry, emphasizing the importance of journeying alongside others through their joys and sorrows. With a deep commitment to mindful service, she honors the sacredness of individual journeys, urging those around her to embrace the gospel-inspired call to care for one another. Her life is a testament to the power of love and compassion in action.

SR. CAROL JEAN ZAIS



Sister Carol Jean, also known as Sr. Mary Job, has devoted her life to education and spiritual guidance, inspired by her early experiences at Sacred Heart School in Edson, Wisconsin. After making her first vows in 1965, she was a creative elementary teacher. Later, her leadership as principal in the Diocese of Green Bay demonstrated her commitment to adapting and thriving in challenging environments, ultimately transforming schools into the All-Saints Catholic School System.

She also was a vibrant presence in vocation ministry, welcoming women discerning religious life and leading formation studies. Now she is a volunteer at Divine Savior Holy Angels High School in Milwaukee, enhancing student life through service in campus ministry. She holds a bachelor's degree from Marquette University and a master's degree in education administration from the University of Wisconsin. She continues to serve as a mentor, encouraging women to explore their faith and responses to God. Her passion for education and community embodies the heart of the Salvatorian mission.

SR. DENISE DEMULLING



In celebration of her 70th Jubilee, we honor Sister Denise Demulling, SDS, a beacon of hospitality and creativity within the Salvatorian Sisters. Inspired by the values instilled by her parents, Sister Denise has dedicated her life to creating welcoming environments, transforming the U.S. headquarters and Community House chapel with her artistic vision that beautifully reflects the seasons and religious celebrations.

Her extensive ministry journey includes serving as the activities director for St. Anne's Salvatorian Campus, where she brought joy and engagement to countless lives. As an elementary teacher and principal, Sister Denise's passion for education shone brightly, and her work with students with hearing impairments showcased her commitment to inclusivity and understanding. We now celebrate not only her 70 years of service but also her profound impact on the community, reminding us of all of the power of hospitality and compassion in our lives. Thank you, Sister Denise, for your unwavering dedication and love.

SR. DEPAUL SCHAFER



Sister DePaul is celebrating her 70th Jubilee, marking a lifetime dedicated to selfless service and compassionate care. Her nursing career began in Columbus and Wausau, Wisconsin, where she served for many years. In 1986, she experienced a transformative sabbatical in the Holy Land, where she cherished the memory of standing atop Mount Sinai at sunrise. Following this experience, Sister DePaul devoted several years to nursing in an Arab village near Jerusalem, demonstrating her commitment to serving the underserved.

After retiring from active ministry, Sister DePaul continued her mission by distributing mobile meals through Milwaukee's Visiting Nurse Association, ensuring that the elderly receive the nourishment and care they need. She also reached out to elders in need through Interfaith Older Adult Programs. Her unwavering dedication to those in need reflects the heart of her vocation. As we honor her 70 years of service, we celebrate a life rooted in compassion, love, and an enduring commitment to uplifting the vulnerable in our communities.

SR. JOAN WAGNER



Sister Joan, also known as Sr. John Bosco, dedicated over four decades to the Holy Family Regional School in Huntsville, Alabama, earning a cherished reputation as a jack-of-all-trades. Celebrated for her humility and devotion, she has taught and nurtured 896 first graders, leaving a lasting impact on countless lives. In 2011, the Sister Joan Wagner Scholarship Initiative was established to support students in their pursuit of faith-based education, reflecting her unwavering commitment to

the community.

With her deep roots as a member of the Sisters of Divine Savior since 1952, Sr. Joan transitioned from teaching to administrative support while continuing to engage with students. Her legacy is deeply woven into the fabric of the school, inspiring generations with her quiet faith and service. As she reflects on her journey, she sees it as a blessed adventure filled with love, faith, and the joy of guiding young minds.

SR. TERESA REBHOLZ



Sister Teresa, formerly Sr. Jacinta, joyfully celebrates her 75th Jubilee, a remarkable milestone reflecting decades of dedication to education and faith. Born in Auburndale, Wisconsin, one of ten siblings, her journey began at St. Joseph's Parish School, where she first encountered the Salvatorian Sisters. After two transformative years at Columbus High School, she embraced her calling, joining the SDS Congregation and making her first vows in 1950.

For 35 years, Sr. Teresa nurtured young minds in Wisconsin and Maryland, particularly at Mother of Good Counsel School. She fondly recalls her first class of 63 third graders, where her childhood dreams of being both teacher and sister blossomed.

With a bachelor's from Alverno College and a master's in education, she remained committed to her students long after retirement, tutoring in reading and math. As she reflects on her journey, Sr. Teresa cherishes the countless lives she touched, sharing her love and knowledge of God, embodying a spirit of joy and service.

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services and spiritual support. The creativity of our Sisters helps to overcome the many challenges that people face in situations of war, poverty and displacement. Walking with people brings them hope and empowers them to endure and thrive as best they can. Our belief in collaboration draws in partners that make miracles possible.

As we look to the future, we remember that our legacy as Sisters of the Divine Savior lies not only in the work we have done in the United States but also in the continued mission we share. Each of us—whether a Sister, a volunteer, a donor, or a supporter—plays a vital role in this ongoing endeavor. By collaborating and supporting one another, we can ensure that the love of God continues to shine brightly through our actions.

Thank you for walking with us on our journey. Together, let us continue to build a world grounded in faith, hope, and love.



With blessings,

Sister Jean Schafer SDS
U.S. Regional Leader


Empowering Change, continued from page 1

a significant impact, embodying the values of sharing the goodness and kindness of Jesus. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to this successful effort—your generosity will make a lasting difference in the lives of many women and children in Colombia, offering hope and opportunities for a better tomorrow. ●

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in action. Through her tireless dedication to service, Reine not only transforms the lives of others but also raises crucial awareness about the needs in her community, harnessing her faith to bring hope and healing.

Reine steadfastly continues her impactful work, inspiring hope and faith within a diverse community. Her journey, much like the church she envisions for her hometown, serves as a compelling reminder of the deep spiritual connections that bind us all together. Reine's story is not just one of service; it's an inspiring call to action for us all to cultivate love, understanding, and solidarity in our own communities. ●



SISTERS OF THE DIVINE SAVIOR

WOMAN *OF Faith*

The Sisters of the Divine Savior invite you to join us
in celebrating our 2025 honoree

REINE ASSANA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025 7:00 PM

Award Presentation Followed by Reception

SDS Community House

4311 North 100th Street, Milwaukee

RSVP by Friday, September 12

To register to attend this free event:

Email: missionadvancement@salvatoriansisters.org

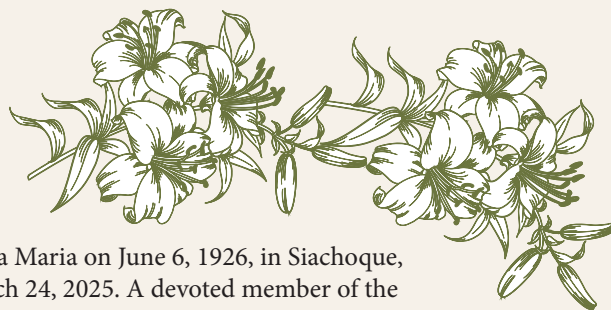
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In Memoriam



Sister Maria Elena Arias, SDS, born Rita Maria on June 6, 1926, in Siachoque, Colombia, entered eternal life on March 24, 2025. A devoted member of the Congregation for nearly 75 years, she professed her first vows on August 13, 1950, and served in various educational roles for over 40 years. As a bilingual teacher and program coordinator at Vieau School in Milwaukee, Sister Maria Elena impacted countless students. She was known for her unwavering dedication to children in need, leaving a lasting mark on both Catholic and public school communities. A cherished mentor, her commitment to education and service will be remembered by all whose lives she touched.



Sister Margaret Bosch, SDS, born Mary Ruth, passed into eternal life on December 21, 2024. A dedicated educator and spiritual leader, she was a beloved member of the Salvatorian Sisters for almost 80 years. Sister Margaret was born on January 22, 1928, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and made her first profession on August 13, 1945. Throughout her ministry, she taught at various schools, served as a guidance counselor, and held leadership roles, including co-director of the Permanent Diaconate Program for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Known for her commitment to sharing God's goodness, she mentored countless individuals on their faith journeys. Her legacy of kindness and dedication to the Church will be cherished by all who knew her.



Sister Maryann Engelhardt, SDS, (Sr. Joseph Marie) born on July 9, 1934, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, passed into eternal life on January 28, 2025. The oldest of four children, she dedicated her life to nursing, serving with compassion for over 70 years. After making her first vows on August 13, 1953, Sister Maryann earned her RN and later a Master's in psychiatric nursing, profoundly impacting many lives in Arizona and Wisconsin. Known for her holistic approach and gentle care, she supported her community through alternative medicine and service to senior sisters. Sister Maryann's legacy of compassion and dedication lives on in those she touched throughout her ministry.



Sister Leticia Regala, SDS, affectionately known as Sister Letty, passed away on May 9, 2025, at the age of 89. Born on June 8, 1935, she dedicated her life to love, faith, and service. A devoted widow and mother of six, Sister Letty embraced her roles with grace while also pursuing her calling in religious life. As a member of the Salvatorian community for nearly 25 years, she found joy in service and connection, embodying the virtues of generosity and kindness. Raised in the Philippines, she and her late husband, Dr. Emilio Regala Jr., built a family in Hartford, Wisconsin, actively contributing to St. Kilian Parish. Sister Letty touched many lives as a nurse, chaplain, lay volunteer, and a source of inspiration to her family and community. Her unwavering faith and commitment to helping others will be remembered and celebrated by all who knew her.



If you wish to honor the memory of one of our beloved Sisters, you are invited to mail a check to the Sisters of the Divine Savior at **4311 N. 100th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53222**, or you may offer your gift online through the SDS website at **www.sistersofthedivinesavior.org/donate**.