



CROSSROADS

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF CHICAGO



Celebrating
1894 125 2019
Years
FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF CHICAGO

Venerable Mother Mary
Theresa Dudzik

*Foundress of the
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago*

ISSUE 32 - SUMMER 2019



FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF CHICAGO

Celebrating 125 Years of Compassionate Service to Those in Need

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**ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL, UNITED IN PRAYER AND COMMUNITY,
WE SHARE FRANCISCAN JOY AND SERVE GENEROUSLY.**

--- Mission Statement of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, December 8, 2010

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION LEADERSHIP TEAM

Sister M. Bernadette Bajuscik, General Minister
Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie, General Vicar
Sister M. Helene Galuszka, General Councilor/General Secretary

CROSSROADS - LOOK INSIDE

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JUBILEE 2019

Sister M. Josetta Kuczmarski and Sister M. Rosemary Ferus are this year's Jubilarians

Sister M. Josetta Kuczmarski - 75 years as a Franciscan Sister of Chicago!



Sister M. Josetta Kuczmarski

Sister M. Josetta Kuczmarski was born on May 29, 1924, in Conway, Massachusetts, and entered religious life on July 26, 1944. Sister became a postulant on February 2, 1945 and was assigned to teach second grade at St. John Cantius in East Chicago, Indiana. After becoming a novice on August 15, 1945, Sister was assigned to teach fourth grade at St. Stanislaus Bishop Martyr in Chicago and served there until 1947. Sister professed her first vows on August 12, 1947, and celebrated her Perpetual Profession on August 12, 1952. During this time, she taught various grades at Five Holy Martyrs in Chicago (1947-1950), fourth grade at St. John Cantius in East Chicago, Indiana (1950-1951), fourth grade at St. Florian in Chicago (1951-1954), and then taught various grades at SS. Philip and James in Cleveland, Ohio until 1969. She received her Bachelor of Science in Education degree from St. John College in Cleveland in 1963.

From 1969 to 1973, Sister Josetta taught eighth grade at St. Casimir in Cleveland, Ohio, where she was also the local Secretary and Treasurer.

In 1973, Sister returned to SS. Philip and James to teach various grades there and later became the Assistant Principal until 1982. Sister was assigned to teach sixth grade at St. Leo the Great in Cleveland (1982-1983) and fifth grade at St. Anthony of Padua in Parma, Ohio (1983-1988).

Sister Josetta was a Board Member at Mount Alverna Home in Parma from 1983 to 1984. She also served as the local Minister and Secretary there. Sister returned to Chicago in 1988 and taught fourth grade at St. Pancratius as well as serving as the local Secretary until 1998. Sister returned to Mount Alverna Home in 1998 and served there in various positions such as a driver, ward clerk aide, Local Minister, Local Treasurer and Local Secretary. Our Sisters who traveled were delighted to stay overnight at Mount Alverna Home. They recalled the experience, saying "Sister is the embodiment of the Franciscan spirit. Visitors to her convent home are welcomed in the Gospel spirit of Martha and Mary welcoming Jesus to their Bethany home. Sister never fails to surprise her guests with little keepsake souvenirs and snacks for their travels in the Cleveland area. Her generous, but simple actions, weave visitors into the joyful fabric of a larger Franciscan community."

Sister Josetta received the Franciscan Weaver Award in 2013. A Sister who nominated her for the award reflected, "During the many years that I have known Sister Josetta she exemplifies kindness, peacefulness and

joy. These are not only rooted in the Gospel but also exemplified in the life of St. Francis who lived the Gospel. These qualities are also those of our foundress, Mother Theresa Dudzik. I have found Sister Josetta ready to serve and to answer requests joyfully and with love."

She is now retired and lives at Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont. Congratulations to Sister M. Josetta Kuczmarski on 75 years as a Franciscan Sister of Chicago!

Sister M. Rosemary Ferus - 70 years as a Franciscan Sister of Chicago!

Sister M. Rosemary Ferus was born on May 10, 1931, in East Chicago, Indiana, and entered religious life on August 12, 1949. Sister became a postulant on February 2, 1950, and was then assigned to teach second grade at Five Holy Martyrs in Chicago, Illinois. Sister became a novice on August 12, 1950. In 1951, she returned to Five Holy Martyrs to teach fifth grade. After her profession of vows on August 12, 1952, Sister was assigned to teach sixth grade at SS. Philip and James, in Cleveland Ohio. Sister celebrated her Perpetual Profession on August 12, 1957.

From 1953 to 1963, Sister Rosemary taught various grades at St. Casimir in Cleveland. During this time she received her Bachelor of Science in Education degree at St. John College in Cleveland in 1963. Sister returned to Chicago to attend Loyola University, where she received her Master of Education degree in Guidance and Counseling in 1964. Sister began work at Madonna High School in Chicago where she served in various positions until 1990, such as Education Director (1965-1975), Guidance Director (1972-1982), and Assistant Principal and Registrar (1982-1990). Sister also served as Local Secretary (1978-1979), Local Superior, (1984-1990), and Director of Postulants and Aspirants (1964-1972).

In 1990, Sister returned to Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont and served in several different positions at Franciscan Village. She was a receptionist there until 1992 and then later was the Director of Mission Integration at both Franciscan Village and Mother Theresa Home until 2002. She also served as Chairman of Total Quality Management Program and Registrar. In 2000, Sister became the Director of Mission Integration at Marian Village in Homer Glen, where she served until 2002.

Sister played the organ at Franciscan Village in Lemont from 2004 to 2010 and also at Marian Village from 2004 to 2005. She now lives at Our Lady of Victory Convent. Congratulations to Sister M. Rosemary Ferus on 70 years as a Franciscan Sister of Chicago!



Sister M. Rosemary Ferus

SISTER M. HELENE GALUSZKA RETIRES FROM FRANCISCAN MINISTRIES AFTER 33 YEARS OF SERVICE



Sister M. Helene Galuszka

Sister M. Helene Galuszka recently celebrated a major milestone when she officially retired as Treasury Manager for Franciscan Ministries after 33 years of service. Sister Helene has been an important part of Franciscan Ministries since its inception in 1986. She was one of the first official employees of what the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago originally called the 'Home Office,' which was eventually named the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago Service Corporation (FSCSC) and later renamed Franciscan Ministries. FSCSC's goal was to unite all of the communities and ministries sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, and place them under one corporate umbrella. These entities would be imbued with the spirit of St. Francis and Mother M. Theresa Dudzik and uphold the traditions of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. The members of the original Home Office staff were Sister Joseph Marie Zenda, Executive Director; Sister M. Francis Clare Radke, Director of Mission Effectiveness; Sister M. Ralph Stawasz, Treasurer; and Sister M. Helene Galuszka, Director of Fiscal Services. "The Sisters

were sponsors of seven different entities when it started. The intent of the service corporation was to unite them and bring them together for a common purpose. It was all the efforts of the Sisters in the beginning," Sister Helene remembered.

To honor Sister M. Helene, a retirement party was held by the employees of Franciscan Ministries on Tuesday, April 30th. After lunch, many employees took turns to share touching and fun stories about their time working with Sister M. Helene. In an emotional moment, Sister gave a speech and shared a quote from the foundress of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik who said, "We continued working to attain the goal for which we had banded together."

Sister will miss her time with Franciscan Ministries. "The people in this office, I have known so many of them for so many years and I've seen their kids grow up. I've been to weddings and to baby showers. This office is often referred to as a 'Franciscan family' and truly we are one big family." Sister will continue her work with the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago in her leadership role as a General Councilor. Congratulations to Sister M. Helene on her retirement!



HISTORY TIMELINE

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago will celebrate their 125th Anniversary on December 8th this year. In preparation for this wonderful milestone, we have provided a historical timeline that begins with the birth of foundress, Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik, and the founding of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago until the current time. Here you may view all the great work the Sisters have done over the years and the everlasting impact they have had on so many individuals.

Many thanks to Sister Anne Marie Knawa, whose book, *As God Shall Ordain*, (a history of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago) was a very helpful resource in creating this timeline.

1860

1881

1886

(1860) Birth - Josephine Dudzik (later Sister Mary Theresa) was born on August 30, 1860 to John and Agnes Dudzik in the village of Plocicz in the Pomeranian region of western Poland. She was baptized "Josephine" at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Kamien Krajski, Poland.

(1881) Immigration to America - Josephine and her family emigrated to Chicago in 1881 and moved to the West Town neighborhood. The Dudzik family joined St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, which was the largest Catholic parish in the United States at that time. *(Right) The Dudzik Family - Josephine is standing on the right.*

(1886) Third Order Secular of St. Francis - The Third Order Secular of St. Francis was established at St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish in 1886. Third Orders are religious groups that help people deepen their lives spiritually and feel closer with God. Josephine Dudzik and Rosalie Wysinski were among the first members accepted. *(Right) St. Stanislaus Kostka Church as it looks today.*



(1889) The Beginning of the Ministry - After the death of her father in 1889, Josephine and her mother lived alone. The United States was in the middle of an economic downturn and Josephine, who observed all the poverty around her, took it to heart. It was at this time that she began taking needy and abandoned people into her home. *(Right) Josephine Dudzik's first home.*



(Early 1890's) St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish - St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish was staffed by the Congregation of the Resurrection, whose congregation was founded in Poland. Rev. Vincent Michael Barzynski, CR, (Founder of the Resurrectionist missions in Chicago), was Josephine Dudzik's spiritual director. Josephine approached him for consent to care for the needy with other committed women from the parish. Josephine sought to purchase a new bigger home to accommodate more people. Father would not give his approval unless the women agreed to take on the rule of a religious congregation. Therefore they were to take vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, and the wearing of a religious habit. With the guidance of Father Barzynski, they began meeting and planning their congregation. *(Right) Rev. Vincent Michael Barzynski, CR.*



1889

1890

1894

(1894) A New Congregation - In 1894, Josephine began inviting members of the Third Order Secular of St. Francis to establish a new congregation called the Franciscan Sisters of Blessed Kunegunda. At the time, the Congregation of the Resurrection was promoting the canonization of Blessed Kunegunda (also known as Blessed Kinga of Poland). Thus, Fr. Barzynski encouraged Josephine to take that name for her new congregation. The new congregation began on December 8, 1894. In 1970, at the FSC Chapter Meeting, the Sisters voted to change their name from the Franciscan Sisters of Blessed Kunegunda to the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago (as a tribute to their heritage in the city of Chicago). The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago are the first religious congregation of women founded in the city of Chicago. *(Right) Saint Kinga of Poland (also known as Kunegunda), was canonized in 1999.*



(1890's) Raising Funds - In the early days of the congregation, the Sisters did garment work to raise funds to support themselves and their ministries. Other ways the Sisters raised funds in those years include growing flowers for cemetery bouquets, cleaning rectories and begging when it was necessary. *(Right) This photo was taken in one of the vestment workshops in the motherhouse.*



(1898) - St. Joseph Home for the Aged and Crippled - In 1898, the Sisters opened St. Joseph Home for the Aged and Crippled (the first and oldest nursing home in Chicago) and built their first motherhouse on the same site. Starting with a single building (in center of photo to the right), the Sisters later expanded, adding the two connecting sides on the right and left. These buildings not only housed the elderly that lived with the Sisters, but also served as the novitiate for new incoming Sisters. Now called St. Joseph Village, it still serves the elderly in Chicago as a senior retirement community. *(Top Right) St. Joseph Home for the Aged and Crippled as it appeared in the early 1900's. (Middle Right) Today St. Joseph Village of Chicago continues to serve the elderly.*



(1899) The Sisters opened St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum in Chicago next door to St. Joseph Home for the Aged and Crippled in 1899. From 1899 through 1906, the Sisters cared for more than 500 children at this orphanage. *(Left) St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum.*

1898

1899

1900

1901-04



(1900) First Profession of Vows - The first four pioneer Sisters made their first profession of vows on June 3, 1900. Membership in the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago steadily increased during this time. *(Left to right): Sister M. Anna Wysinski, Sister M. Angeline Topolinski, Sister M. Agnes Dzik, and Sister M. Theresa Dudzik.*

(1901) Ministering in Education - In 1901, the Sisters began to minister in education as they provided Sisters to teach at SS. Peter and Paul in Spring Valley, Illinois, and at St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr in Chicago (the Sisters would teach there until 1992). Over the years, the Sisters taught in 44 grammar schools and 2 high schools.

(1904) The Sisters opened St. Elizabeth Day Nursery in Chicago in 1904 and would operate this establishment until 1915 and again from 1920 to 1959. *(Right) A Sister and Postulants stand with the children in front of the nursery.*





Sister M. Theresa Dudzik.



Mother Mary Anna Wysinski.

(1910) Change in Leadership - In the early days of the congregation, Sister M. Theresa Dudzik was appointed Superior by Father Barzynski. When Sister M. Theresa began collecting funds to build a new home, some people in the parish spread malicious rumors that she was using the funds for herself and for her family. Fr. Barzynski suggested that Sister M. Theresa remove herself from leadership to avoid the scandal. In her humility and obedience to Fr. Barzynski, she stepped down.

Thus in 1910, Mother Mary Anna (Rosalie) Wysinski (who was also one of the pioneer Sisters) was elected General Superior of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago in the First General Chapter. In the years after the election, Sister M. Theresa worked in the garden, sewed habits for new Sisters and performed other humble tasks. Eventually, new Sisters did not even recognize her as the foundress. In 1940, during the Sixth General Chapter, historical records were reviewed and Sister M. Theresa was officially recognized as the foundress. She was then given the honorary title of Mother.

1910

1917

1918

1926

(1917) Ministry Extension in Education - Starting in 1917, the Sisters extended their ministry to staff schools across Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Texas.

(1917) The Sisters ministered at Guardian Angel Day Nursery and Home for Working Girls in the "back of the yards" (the famous Chicago stockyards) in 1917. The Sisters took care of the women and children and many people received medical treatment annually at the free health clinic that was attached to the home. In 1952, the facility would become the legal property of the Sisters who would continue to operate it until 1991.

(Top Right) Guardian Angel Day Nursery and Home for Working Girls.



(1918) Death - Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik died in 1918. She was buried at St. Adalbert Cemetery in Niles, Illinois, where eventually all of the Sisters who passed were buried. In 1972, Mother Theresa's body was moved to the sarcophagus in the chapel at Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont. *(Middle Right) Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik.*



(1926) The Sisters purchased the Walker estate in Lemont, Illinois, in 1926, which served as the congregation's novitiate for 37 years. When Sisters joined the congregation, they would stay here, and this area would serve as a religious retreat. *(Bottom Right) Walker Estate.*





(1936) Our Lady of Victory Convent was officially opened as a home for retired and infirm Sisters in Lemont, Illinois, in 1936. Later, when the new motherhouse was built, this building was turned into Mother Theresa Home, a senior living community.

(1939) St. Anthony Home - The Sisters opened St. Anthony Home for the Aged in Crown Point, Indiana in 1939. This community started as a farm house that served as a home for the elderly and eventually grew into a large senior retirement community in Northwest Indiana. Later the community was expanded and named St. Anthony Village. *(Left) The Sisters stand in front of St. Anthony's Home in 1939.*

(1940) Sisters in Boys Town - The Sisters served with celebrated priest, Father Edward Flanagan, at Boys Town, Nebraska, starting in 1940. The Sisters served in various positions there from housekeeping to office work and teaching religion. When the sisters officially left there in 1976, the Dowd Memorial Chapel Bulletin (the chapel newsletter in Boys Town) wrote that the Sisters were the 'Heart and Soul of the Boys Town Community.' *(Right) Father Flanagan with the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago.*



1926

1936-39

1940

1947-54



(1947) Expansion into Nursing and Healthcare - The Sisters extended their ministry into acute care hospitals in both South Dakota and Nebraska including a nursing school in Huron, South Dakota in the 1940's. Over the years, many Sisters would work in various roles in hospitals, nursing, and healthcare institutions. *(Left) The Sisters stand in front of a horse hitch wearing all white nursing habits.*

(1949) Madonna High School - The Sisters opened Madonna High School in Chicago in the old motherhouse in 1949. Many Sisters taught here and inspired thousands of young women over the years. The Sisters built a new, more modern school and opened it in 1958. Madonna High School stayed open until 2001.



(1953) Mount Alverna Rest Home - Mount Alverna Rest Home (later rebuilt, expanded and renamed Mount Alverna Village) was opened in Parma, Ohio, in 1953. It continues to serve the elderly in northeast Ohio today. *(Right) Mount Alverna Village today.*



(1963) The Cause of Sainthood - In 1963, the Sisters began the pursuit of the cause of beatification for Mother Mary Theresa. Rev. Henry Malak was appointed Postulator and would contribute an enormous amount of work to this cause including publishing Mother Mary Theresa's manuscripts with translations provided by Sister M. Hugoline Czaplinski.

(1963) New Our Lady of Victory Convent - The motherhouse (pictured right) was moved from Chicago to Lemont, Illinois, in 1963 and a new Our Lady of Victory Convent was built. The old convent was renovated and turned into a senior living community and named Mother Theresa Home. This motherhouse stayed in use until 2002 when a new convent was built on the grounds.



(1972) Special Mass - As part of the beatification process, Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik's body was exhumed from St. Adalbert's Cemetery on October 13, 1972, and later re-interred in a sarcophagus in the motherhouse chapel. There was a special Mass held and visitors were allowed to pray near her casket.

(Right) Members of Mother Mary Theresa's extended family stood in the front row during the special Mass held in 1972.



1963

1972

1974

1979-82

(1974) St. Anthony Medical Center - The Sisters opened St. Anthony Medical Center in Crown Point, Indiana, near St. Anthony Home in 1974. Many Sisters worked here in various positions in healthcare, administration, and management. The Sisters sponsored this facility until 1999. *(Right) St. Anthony Medical Center.*



(1979 - 1982) Servant of God - John Cardinal Cody officially opened the Cognitive Process for the Cause of Beatification in 1979. Testimonies were given from 1970-1981 on Mother Mary Theresa's life and her heroic virtue. This material was eventually published in a document called *Positio Super Scriptis* for the Cause of Saints in Rome in 1982. Thus in 1982, Mother Mary Theresa was declared a Servant of God, the preliminary step in the canonization process. A person who is declared a Servant of God is a person whose works are being investigated in consideration for official recognition by the Pope and the Catholic Church as a saint in Heaven.

(1982) Holy Family Child Care Center - The Sisters started Holy Family Child Care Center for the children of employees of St. Anthony Medical Center in Crown Point, Indiana. In 1995, ownership of the center was transferred to St. Anthony Home. Today, this center is still active and takes care of the children of parents who work at St. Anthony Village and also in the community of Crown Point as well.

(1988) Franciscan Ministries - The Sisters created the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago Service Corporation (later renamed Franciscan Ministries). FSCSC was established to help manage and operate all facilities sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago and assist them in extending their charitable mission in health care, social services, pastoral care, and education. Originally located in Homewood, Illinois, Franciscan Ministries' headquarters officially moved into a new building across from Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont, Illinois, in 2015.



(1989) Franciscan Village, a senior living community, was opened in Lemont in 1989 and Mother Theresa Home was incorporated into the community. *(Right) Franciscan Village in Lemont.*

(1991) International Ministries - The Sisters ministered to people outside of the United States. Beginning in 1991, Sr. M. Alacoque Czartoryski went to Plocicz, Poland (Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik's birthplace) to teach. She also helped raise funds to build a church there. Also in 1991, Sister Theresa Obremski went to Mexico to minister to the people there. She taught catechism, visited the sick, and led monthly retreats. *(Right) Sr. M. Alacoque Czartoryski in Plocicz, Poland, in 1991.*



1988

1989

1991

1992-94

(1992) Sisters in Higher Education - The Sisters taught in universities and colleges starting in 1992. Sister Lois Marie Rossi taught nursing at Wilbur Wright Junior College in Chicago. Sister Doloria Kosiek taught Literacy at Triton Community College and Oakton Community College in Chicago and Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie taught at Olive Harvey City College and was a professor in the School of Education at St. Xavier University in Chicago. Sister Diane Marie Collins also was the Director of Liturgy and Music at the St. John Paul II Newman Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

(1992) Theresa Dudzik Innovation Grant - The Sisters established the Teresa Dudzik Service Award in 1992. This award encouraged new innovation and recognized outstanding achievement in the Sisters' sponsored communities and ministries. Participating communities documented and shared their programs in the spirit of collaboration. Later revitalized the Theresa Dudzik Innovation Grant in 2016, this monetary grant award is awarded yearly.

(1994) Venerable Mother Mary Theresa - Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik was declared Venerable by Pope John Paul II in 1994. Being declared Venerable is the first step in the cause for canonization. This means that the Vatican has determined that Mother Mary Theresa lived a life of heroic virtue and sought to improve her spirituality consistently throughout her life. Efforts continue to spread the news of her life and holiness so that more people will seek her intercession that can lead to her reception of the title "Blessed" and eventually to be canonized and declared a saint. *(Right) This statue of Mother Mary Theresa holding "Joey" currently stands in the Grotto on the grounds of Our Lady of Victory Convent.*



(1995) St. Jude House - In 1995, the Sisters opened St. Jude House, a family violence prevention center in Crown Point, Indiana. St. Jude House provides services to survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual assault and their dependent children. The shelter serves approximately 500 women and children a year and provides a full component of services including housing, food, toiletries, counseling for adults and children, case management, legal advocacy, liaison with Child Protective Services and other social service agencies, and educational programs concerning abuse. *(Right) St. Jude House is in Crown Point, Indiana, in the vicinity of St. Anthony Village.*



(1997) Addolorata Villa, a senior living community in Wheeling, Illinois, was purchased from the Servite Sisters and expanded in 1997. *(Left) Addolorata Villa in Wheeling.*

(1998) Another senior living community, Marian Village, in Homer Glen, Illinois, was opened in 1998. *(Right) Marian Village in Homer Glen.*



1995

1997-98

2001

2002

(2001) Madonna Foundation - With the closing of Madonna High School in Chicago in 2001, the Sisters established the Madonna Foundation, a public charity that increases access for young women to attend all girl Catholic high schools in the Chicago area. The foundation is the only one of its kind in the region focusing exclusively on serving young women with scholarship support and programming. Since 2001, the Madonna Foundation has awarded scholarships to over 1,200 young women, totaling over \$2.7 million. *(Top Right) Madonna Scholars gather together for Family Orientation Day in 2017.*



(2002) In 2002, the Sisters opened the new Our Lady of Victory Convent in Lemont, Illinois. When the convent was built, the casket containing the remains of Mother Theresa was moved from the former motherhouse to its new home in the sarcophagus in the new chapel. For a few short days before its transfer, the casket was displayed and visitors could see and visit the casket and pray. *(Middle Right) Our Lady of Victory Convent today. (Bottom right) Sisters stand around Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik's casket in 2002.*



(2003) University Place, a senior living community, was opened in West Lafayette, Indiana, in 2003. University Place has a special place in the history of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. It is the first senior community that was developed by the Sisters in collaboration with a university, Purdue University of West Lafayette, Indiana.

(Right) University Place in West Lafayette, Indiana.



(2005 - 2006) St. Joseph Village in Chicago and Mount Alverna Village in Parma, Ohio, (two of the Sisters' oldest sponsored communities) were rebuilt and expanded with assisted living and skilled nursing.

(2006) The Village at Victory Lakes, a senior living community in Lindenhurst, Illinois was acquired in 2006.

(Right) The Village at Victory Lakes in Lindenhurst, IL.



2003

2005-06

2011

2018

(2011) Mother Theresa Dudzik Way - In 2011, the City of Chicago renamed a street after Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik. The southeast corner of Karlov and Belmont (West Belmont and North Karlov) is now Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik Way. *(Below) The Sisters gather with the Honorable Ray Suarez, Alderman, to unveil the new street sign.*



(2018) Continued Growth - Franciscan Ministries acquired The Village at Mercy Creek in Normal, Illinois, in 2018. This brings the total number of senior living communities to nine with two senior housing communities in both Crete, Illinois, and Louisville, Kentucky. *(Below) The Village at Mercy Creek in Normal Illinois.*





Left to Right: Sarah Herbert (Madonna Scholar/Resurrection College Prep High School Senior), Betsy Garbrecht (Advancement and Scholarship Manager, Madonna Foundation), Sr. Donna Wolowicki, (President, Resurrection College Prep High School), Sr. M. Helene Galuszka (General Councilor, Franciscan Sisters of Chicago), Sr. Jeanne Marie Toriskie (General Vicar, Franciscan Sisters of Chicago), Sr. Emilie Marie Lesniak (Franciscan Sisters of Chicago), Dr. Richard Piwowski, (Principal, Resurrection College Prep High School)

DREAMS TO REALITY AWARD

Madonna Foundation and the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago
Receive the 2019 Dreams to Reality Award

On Saturday, February 23, 2019, Resurrection College Prep High School in Chicago honored the Madonna Foundation and the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago with its inaugural "Dreams to Reality Award" at their Charity & Truth Gala. On hand to accept the award was Betsy Garbrecht, Advancement and Scholarship Manager of the Madonna Foundation, and Sister M. Helene Galuszka, Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie, and Sister Emilie Marie Lesniak from the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago.

The Dreams to Reality Award is a new award that recognizes organizations and foundations that have been financially generous and charitable in supporting young women attending Resurrection College Prep High School. The Madonna Foundation and the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago thanked Resurrection College Prep High School for this award.

Janet Sisler was an honored guest of Madonna Foundation. Ms. Sisler is currently the Vice President of Mission Integration at Loyola University. She is the former Director of Franciscan Community Benefit Services and helped

the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago form the Madonna Foundation in 2001.

Below is the tribute piece that was written in the Gala program:

"Tonight, Resurrection College Prep High School honors the Madonna Foundation with the 2019 Dreams to Reality Award. The Dreams to Reality Award is a new award at Resurrection to recognize organizations or foundations which have shown remarkable and generous financial support of young women attending Resurrection College Prep. The Madonna Foundation has been selected as the inaugural award recipient because of its ongoing support of Resurrection students.



Left to Right: Christine Zielke (Director, Philanthropy & Planned Giving, Franciscan Ministries), Sr. Jeanne Marie Toriskie (General Vicar, Franciscan Sisters of Chicago), Sr. Emilie Marie Lesniak (Franciscan Sisters of Chicago), Janet Sisler (Vice President of Mission Integration, Loyola University), Sr. M. Helene Galuszka (General Councilor, Franciscan Sisters of Chicago)

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago formed the Madonna Foundation in 2001 to carry on their legacy of educating young women in the Catholic tradition of excellence. The Madonna Foundation is a public charity that increases access for young women to attend Catholic high schools in the Chicago area. The Foundation is the only one of its kind in the region focusing exclusively on serving young women with scholarship support and programming.

The Madonna Foundation annually awards scholarships to young women who demonstrate financial need and the potential for academic achievement. In many cases, without the foundation's scholarships, these young women would not be able to attend a Catholic all-girls school. The young women selected to receive the scholarship and to participate in the program are proudly referred to as 'Madonna Scholars.'

Over 125 Resurrection College Prep students have been the recipients of the scholarships funded by the foundation and we are grateful for their support of Resurrection's 'Madonna Scholars.' In addition to tuition grants, the Foundation provides college and career readiness seminars; leadership and empowerment workshops; spiritual retreats, service-learning opportunities, and one-to-one tutoring support through a variety of dynamic and innovative programs. Madonna Scholars build meaningful, productive and successful lives to become the next generation of educated and compassionate leaders.

Resurrection College Prep High School has been honored to be the recipient of support from the Madonna Foundation and the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago and we are pleased to present the 2019 Dreams to Reality Award to this outstanding organization which is helping to make a Catholic all-girl education a reality for so many of Resurrection's students and the Madonna Scholars throughout the Chicago archdiocese."

ST. JUDE HOUSE NEWS

St. Jude House has had quite a busy year so far. Here are some of the great things that have happened so far this year. Many thanks to everyone for your continued support for St. Jude House!

Inaugural "Bruncheon" to 'Break the Silence'

St. Jude House hosted its inaugural "Bruncheon" to 'Break the Silence' on March 8th, International Women's Day. The event was held at Villa Cesare in Schererville, Indiana, and featured local vendors and inspirational speakers, including one domestic abuse survivor, Sandy Martinez, who told an emotional story of her own personal experience with domestic abuse. "I could've stayed the victim, but that 'V' doesn't stand for victim anymore, it stands for victor," Martinez stated. "I won, I got my life back, and to stand here now and tell my story feels so good." Ms. Martinez's emotional story received a standing ovation from everyone who attended. Afterwards, attendees enjoyed a variety of delicious breakfast foods and treats and visits with local vendors. Thank you to all who attended this wonderful event and made it a success!



Sandy Martinez

St. Jude House Room and Bed Expansion

St. Jude House expanded its bed capacity from 30 to 40 beds this past spring. Through a grant, the staff was able to secure new bunk beds and mattresses to better serve the occupants. An old office was also converted into a bedroom, thus increasing the bedrooms from 8 to 9 in total. St. Jude House can now serve more people and families who are enduring domestic violence, and afford them safe shelter to receive compassionate and comprehensive services.

Stand Up for St. Jude House in May

On Friday, May 17th, St. Jude House held its annual fundraiser, 'Stand Up For St. Jude House,' at Villa Cesare in Schererville. In past years, the fundraiser would feature stand-up comedians, but this year a new variety show format was highlighted instead. Tomfoolery Fun Club teamed up with St. Jude House to showcase comedians Gwen LaRoka, Mickey Housley, and Colleen Brennan, as well as jazz saxophonist Reggie Foster, Jr. who played with his band. Ryan Elinkowski, Director of St. Jude House, thanked everyone involved in the event. "It takes an 'army' to keep operations running, and the families that benefit from their services are worth the investment. Our supporters, staff, board of directors, and development committee, pour love into our mission." Many thanks to all who volunteered and performed. The evening was a great success as everyone celebrated with fun and laughter. Thanks to all who came out to show support for the St. Jude House mission.



St. Jude House staff: (Left to Right) Cristina White, Dawn Bouton, Lauren Zurbruggen, Ryan Elinkowski, Kari Thomsen, Val Lay, and Shawn Wallace



The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago present a check for the Theresa Dudzik Innovation Grant to The Village at Victory Lakes. (From Left to Right) Jeanne Heid-Grubman (Administrator, The Village at Victory Lakes), Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie (General Vicar), Sister M. Bernadette Bajuscik, (General Minister), Sister M. Helene Galuszka (General Councilor), and Cal Isaacson, (Executive Director, The Village at Victory Lakes)

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF CHICAGO ANNOUNCE THERESA DUDZIK INNOVATION GRANT WINNERS

The Village of Victory Lakes, St. Joseph Village of Chicago and Mount Alverna Village are this year's winners.

By Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago have named The Village of Victory Lakes in Lindenhurst, Illinois, St. Joseph Village in Chicago, and Mount Alverna Village in Parma, Ohio, as the recipients of its annual Theresa Dudzik Innovation Grant. The purpose of the grant, established over 25 years ago, is to encourage advances in serving the poor, elderly, and needy by providing seed money for outstanding initiatives.

Submissions were accepted from member organizations designed to increase the quality and quantity of programs and services offered within Franciscan Ministries, sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. Additionally, the award encourages creative problem-solving and encourages professionals to document, display, and share their successes with others in a spirit of caring.

All of this year's winners are senior living facilities. Two of the facilities tied for the first prize, and will receive \$10,000 each in seed money to develop their innovations which address the memory issues which afflict

numerous elderly. The third facility will receive \$5,000 to carry out its innovation of compassionate discharge care.

The Village of Victory Lakes is developing a program called, "Person-Centered Dementia Care- Know the Person." This program seeks to know the residents' background, lifestyle, preferences, values, and strengths. It recognizes the whole person, not only their functional abilities and healthcare needs, but also their spirituality, their source of joy, their social needs and abilities, and their role in the community. It includes how dementia is impacting how these residents see the world. In the skilled care setting of their facility, collecting this information is challenging, but only part of the challenge. One of the bigger challenges is how to communicate this information to the entire care team and what to do with that information once it is shared. The seed money will enable this facility to develop a Person-Centered Care Profile tool as well as the process for sharing and using it.

St. Joseph Village of Chicago will be implementing a program called, "It's Never Too Late (iN2L): An Interdisciplinary Initiative." It is an integrated software and hardware computer program designed to stimulate cognitive abilities, engage residents, promote communication of the residents with their family, reduce agitation, and enhance therapy outcomes. The seed money of the grant will allow St. Joseph Village to customize iN2L



The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago present a check for the Theresa Dudzik Innovation Grant to St. Joseph Village. (From Left to Right) Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie (General Vicar), Alexis Smitley (Life Enrichment Assistant, St. Joseph Village), Daniel Lunney (Director of Mission Integration, St. Joseph Village), Steven T. Schmidt (Donor), Sister M. Bernadette Bajusick (General Minister), Brian Celerio (Executive Director, St. Joseph Village) and Sister M. Helene Galuszka (General Councilor)



The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago present a check for the Theresa Dudzik Innovation Grant to Mount Alverna Village. (From Left to Right) Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie, (General Vicar) , Natalie Smolilo (Director of Clinical Nutrition Services, Mount Alverna Village), Sister M. Helene Galuszka (General Councilor), Sister M. Bernadette Bajuscik (General Minister) and Patrick Welsh (Executive Director, Mount Alverna Village)

for each resident, taking into account his/her nursing, spiritual care, dietary, life enrichment, social services, and therapy needs. The customization will also take into account the language, culture, interests, abilities, and personal needs of each resident.

Mount Alverna Village is implementing "Food for Your Journey." The purpose of the program is to make the transition home easier for residents who are discharged from the facility by providing them with a variety of different nutritional foods in an insulated bag. This innovation addresses the situation that is typical after a short term stay in rehabilitation. Upon discharge, the resident with his/her family and/or friends have numerous challenges to face in getting the resident home safely with all their medications and healthcare supplies. The food which was in the home refrigerator and pantry is often either expired, spoiled, or not appropriate for the new health status of the resident. Providing residents with a bag of nutritious food gives them quick and easy access to healthy foods from the moment they arrive home, and ensures that they are being well-nourished. In the long term, the handouts included in the bag provide guidelines for proper nutrition, once the food in the bag is gone.

Congratulations to this year's winners and many thanks to all who participated this year!

SWINGING FOR THE SISTERS 10TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago's 10th annual Swinging for the Sisters Golf Outing was held on May 21st at Cog Hill Golf and Country Club in Lemont. This year the golfers braved the cold and wet weather to come out and enjoy a round of golf and support the Sisters' ministries. The golfers began the day with breakfast prepared by the staff at Cog Hill. Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie then welcomed the golfers with a short opening prayer and wished them good luck as they gathered in their golf carts to begin their round of golf.



After a long day of golfing, the golfers were served a barbecue lunch and a prize raffle was held. All donations received will help support the Sisters and their ministries: Madonna Foundation and St. Jude House. The Sisters thanked George Ferrell and William Callaghan Jr. of Henry Bros. Co. for their continued support and being a major sponsor again this year. The Sisters thanked all who participated, volunteered, and also the following generous sponsors and donors:



*George Ferrell (Henry Bros. Co.) and
Vicki Olsen (Event Coordinator)*

**Henry Bros. Co. (Major Sponsor) -
William Callaghan Jr. and George Ferrell**
Assurance - (Lunch Sponsor) - John Storto
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AEW Capital Management, L.P. (Cart Sponsor) - Stephen Reissfelder
Huntington National Bank - (Event Sponsor)

Also thank you to the following Hole Sponsors & Donors: Alvernia Manor Senior Living, Anchor Capital Management, Birk Plumbing, Tom Callahan Plumbing Co., John Grele, Dorothy Harris, Kathy Kelly, Ken Wilson Paving, Kenwood Liquors, Theresa Kolaz, Mayslake Village, Meany, Inc., Fran Modelski, Nixon Peabody, Pepper's Lemont Auto Care, Ridge Landscape Services, Susan & Carole Schroeder, The Flooring Guys, Rich & Connie Truesdale, Unidine Corporation, and W. Russell Stewart.

Thank you to all who golfed with us and provided foursomes or sponsored foursomes: Accel Entertainment Gaming, LLC, AG Architecture, Assurance Agency, Advacare Systems, Bell-Litho Inc., Callahan Plumbing Co., Elite Ambulance, Henry Bros., Huntington Bank, J. Hassert, Ken Wilson Paving, Lucas Brothers, Meany, Inc., Nania Energy, Plante Moran LLC, Ridge Landscape, River Road Tops, Symbria Synergy Group, The Flooring Guys, Trizzino Concrete, Storcom, Unidine, and Zentel Tech, LLC.



VENERABLE MOTHER MARY THERESA LEAGUE/GUILD MEMBERS AND DONORS

Donors: June 2018 - May 2019

Gifts sent to the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago for the Beatification Cause are sent immediately to this Fund. Gifts received through the League of Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik are used to cover the cost of operating the League Office and once a year (or more often) money from the League is transferred to the Beatification Fund. Thanks to everyone who has helped build the Beatification Fund. Every step in the process requires fees and the Beatification Fund must continue to grow so that funds are there when needed.

Mr. Dennis Antkowiak
Stephen R. Archacki
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bomba
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Ms. Carole Chambers
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HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

NOVEMBER 15, 2018 - APRIL 26, 2019

The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago thank their donors and friends for partnering with them. The Sisters offer their gratitude and sincere appreciation for their donors' generosity, which has allowed them to continue the ministry started by Venerable Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik.

These donations have helped the ministries of the Sisters in a profound way. Their sponsored ministries include affordable housing for seniors, a shelter for victims of domestic abuse, senior retirement communities, and scholarships for all-girls Catholic high school tuition.

The donor list in this issue is recorded from **November 15, 2018 - April 26, 2019**. The Sisters make every effort to keep accurate records and each gift is acknowledged promptly. Should something be amiss, however, the Sisters ask the donors to call them at once. Inquiries should be directed to Vicki Olsen at (630) 243-3556 or email: volsen@chicagofranciscans.com.



OUR LADY OF VICTORY CONVENT, LEMONT, ILLINOIS

RESTRICTED GIFTS

Restricted Gifts enable the Sisters to purchase the items that donors specifically request their donations be used for. The explicit designation by the benefactor allows the donor to become an integral part of the ministries of the Sisters.

Mrs. Adeline E. Galuszka

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

The Unrestricted Fund is important because it allows flexibility for the Sisters' use. Gifts are directed to where the need is greatest. The Sisters are able to use unrestricted gifts immediately or to allow them to accumulate until a significant need arises. The thoughtfulness of unrestricted gifts is greatly appreciated.

Tim & Wendy Bellagamba

Diane Borla

Jerry Borrelli

Bill & Nancy Bucki

Father John Czyznski, SCJ

Marcia T. Fernandez

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Finnegan

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Sophie Wolniakowski

Monsignor John Zuraw

VENERABLE MOTHER MARY THERESA DUDZIK BEATIFICATION FUND



Gifts sent to the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago for the Beatification Cause are sent immediately to this Fund. Gifts received through the League of Mother Theresa are used to cover the cost of operating the League Office and once a year (or more often) money from the League is transferred to the Beatification Fund. Thanks to everyone who has helped build the Beatification Fund. Every step in the process requires fees and the Beatification Fund must continue to grow so that funds are there when needed.

Dr. & Mrs. Peter E. Doris

NON-CASH

The Sisters are restricted by law and policy as to the kinds of non-cash

gifts they can accept. Among those items are medications and some used items or partially used items. Some changes in legislation also affect the donor. In fact, Congress passed new rules for deducting household goods, clothing and other items. Unless the item is in good used condition or better or was donated before August 18, 2006, donors will not get the tax deduction. Congress wanted to stop people from using charitable organizations to dump unwanted items in order to write off a donation of minimal or no value. It is always best to call the Development Office at 630-243-3556 before giving a non-cash gift. Dropping off something the Sisters cannot legally accept often requires the Sisters to pay for the disposal of these items, which assuredly was not the donor's intent. The Sisters thank the following for their gifts in kind:

Mrs. Adeline Galuszka

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Trzcinski

RETIREMENT FUND

Gifts to the Retirement Fund are very important to us as they provide support in the care of the retired and infirm members of our Community. The rising cost of health care and medicine are as serious an issue for us as they are with the general public. We're grateful for your gifts.

JoAn Gratz

Stanley Kedzior

Dennis E. Wisnosky

HERESA DUDZIK INNOVATION GRANT 2019

Anchor Capital Advisors LLC
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LEGACY FUND

Using the envelope included with this issue of Crossroads is the easiest way to contribute to any of the Sisters' funds and it makes it especially easy to direct a gift to the Legacy Fund. There are several categories to which a Legacy gift can be directed — the two most popular are Memorials (for deceased loved ones) and Tributes (in honor of living individuals or groups). Some donors make regular gifts to this fund on anniversaries as in the case of memorials, birthdays, marriages, and our Jubilarians. General, undesignated gifts may be made to this fund as well as donations for one's own special intention. The Legacy Fund is the Sisters' Endowment, which they continue to grow by reinvesting the income from the fund. A gift to the Legacy Fund also continues to grow in perpetuity. Ultimately a portion of this fund will be used to help those who entrust their needs to the Sisters, including their own infirm and aged Sisters.

GENERAL GIFTS

Estate of Theophane Mary Zaucha

TRIBUTES

In Honor of
Kelsey Dean's 1st Communion
Mr. & Mrs. Casimir Trocewicz

In Honor of Sister M. Dorothea Micek
Nancy Balvin

In Honor of
Sister M. Celeste Walkowski
Mary Elizabeth Day

MEMORIALS

In Memory of
Sister M. Seraphia Bejrowski
Nancy Balvin

In Memory of
Sister M. Amabilis Bellock
Nancy Balvin

In Memory of
Sister M. Claudia Bomba
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bomba

In Memory of
Sister M. Leonida Bywalec
Thomas & Laura Strolia

In Memory of
Sister M. Alacoque Czartoryski
Joanne A. Cartor

In Memory of
My husband Chester Dudzik
Mary Ann Dudzik

In Memory of Walter Ganiec
Helen Ganiec

In Memory of
Sister M. Antonissima Jamruk
Nancy Balvin

In Memory of
Sister M. Jeanette Golojuch
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Golojuch

In Memory of
Sister M. Angeline Kedzior
Bernadine W. Mitrus

In Memory of Mildred Lang
Ms. Marie Maciejewski

In Memory of Mary Reynolds
Jean Reynolds

In Memory of
Sister M. Methodia Ryzner
Geraldine B. Biel

In Memory of
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Mr. & Mrs. John Vlock

In Memory of
Sister M. Marylla Stanislawczyk
Clifford & Karen Chuey
Mr. & Mrs. Van Stout

In Memory of
Sister M. Marifilia Strzycki
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Caviness
Mr. & Mrs. Van Stout

In Memory of Sister M. Frances Szczur
Nancy Balvin
Mr. & Mrs. Van Stout

In Memory of
Sister M. Kingnetta Szczypula
Joseph & Cindy Tidei

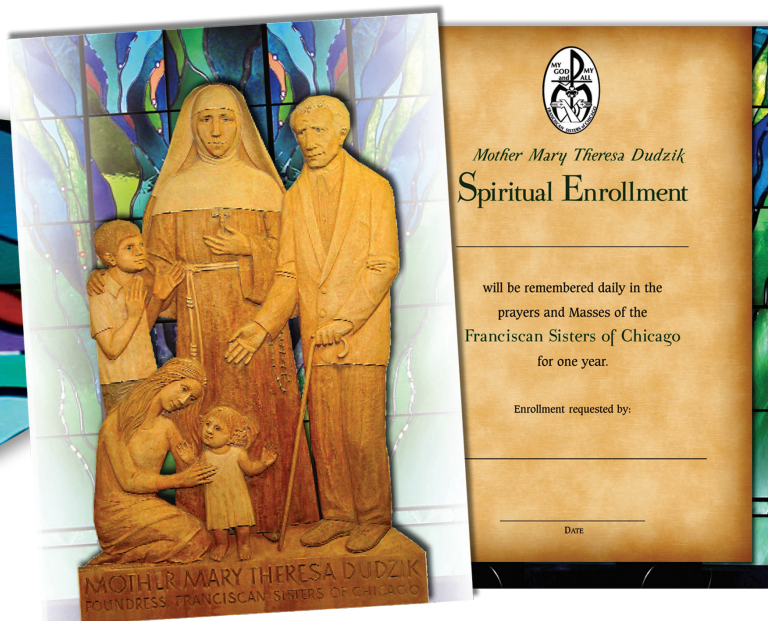
In Memory of
Sister M. Natalie Uscinowicz
Nancy Balvin

In Memory of
Sister M. Agatha Walerski
Mr. & Mrs. Van Stout

In Memory of
Harry, Sophie & Carol Witkiewicz
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Witkiewicz

In Memory of
Sister M. DeSales Wyszynski
Bernadine W. Mitrus

In Memory of Irene & Walter Zurek
Loretta Zurek



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Carol Baum

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Dr. Whitney Belcher

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Helen Lis

Enrolled by Anonymous

Marinne Sedlak

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Soukup Family

Enrolled by Judith Soukup

Julie Wilson

Enrolled by Patricia S. Vander Plow

MOTHER MARY THERESA DUDZIK SPIRITUAL ENROLLMENT

NOVEMBER 15TH, 2018 - APRIL 26, 2019

The Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik Spiritual Enrollment Program provides an opportunity for the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago to share their prayer with others in a special way. A monthly Mass is celebrated for all those enrolled, living or deceased. The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago remember everyone who is enrolled in their prayers.

The Spiritual Enrollment card with a matching mailing envelope is exquisitely designed and easy to use. It may be used to celebrate any occasion or remember a loved one. Please be sure to complete the section requesting the donor's name and address so that the Spiritual Enrollment Book has the donor's name as well as the name of the person being enrolled.

A one-year enrollment is \$15. To obtain the enrollment packet, please contact Vicki Olsen at (630) 243-3556.

SPIRITUAL ENROLLMENT DECEASED

Linda Adajar

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Floyd Barber

Enrolled by Helen J. Gilson

James R. Black

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Phyllis M. Brown

Enrolled by
Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

James Burnett

Enrolled by Joe & Pat Budzyn

Colette A. Bus

Enrolled by Sister Emilie Marie Lesniak

Vera Caldario

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DINNER DANCE

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The Crystal Grand Banquets, 12416 S. Archer Ave, Lemont, IL 60439

This year our annual dinner dance is a special event honoring the 125th Anniversary of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. We hope you can come celebrate with the Sisters on this memorable night!

Call (630) 243-3556 for More Information