



Partners in CND Mission

In This Issue

Welcome to Catholic Education in the Sooner State!..... 2

*Catherine Powers, CND
(S. Kathleen Margaret)*

Religious Life in the 21st Century..... 3

*Theresa Galvan, CND
(S. Maureen Therese)*

CND Associate Relationship..... 4

*Joan Mahoney, CND
Coordinator*

Many Hats..... 5

*Margaret Farley, CND
(S. Margaret Rose)*

News from the Office of Mission Advancement 6

Photos of Community Happenings..... 3, 7

A Tribute to Sister Rose Galligan, CND..... 7

Kate Dolan, CND Associate

In Gratitude 8

In Memory Of 8

Dear Friends of the CND,

“I thank my God every time I think of you! Every time I pray for you, I pray with joy!” Philippians 1.

As you continue to gift us, your generosity overwhelms us and we continue to pray in thanksgiving for your goodness to us. May you be blessed abundantly.

In our newsletter we try to keep you up-to-date on how our Sisters continue to be of service in the Church. Our Sisters ministering in Diocesan and Archdiocesan Offices explain their role in advancing the mission of the Church. You will read how this is happening in Oklahoma City, OK, Joliet and Chicago, IL.

Another important part of the CND is our Associate Relationship Program. Two Associates explain the impact that their Associate Relationship has made on them as individuals, for their family and for their ministries. There are 103 Associates in the US and over 900 throughout the world. CNDs minister in Canada, the US, Central America, Cameroon, France and Japan. There are Associates in each of these countries.

Have you visited our website? It can be found at www.cnd-m.org. Under “Works and Ministries”, you will find the Office of Mission Advancement/USA. We are also on Facebook: Congregation of Notre Dame/USA. Be sure to visit us on these sites and find out more of what we are doing.

You are in our prayers; thank you for sharing your needs with us. Your letters to us are welcomed as we enjoy hearing of your memories of and gratitude to the CND.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Murphy, CND
Director, Office of Mission Advancement



Welcome to Catholic Education in the Sooner State!

By: Catherine Powers, CND
(S. Kathleen Margaret)

At the end of this 2011-2012 school year I will have finished my sixteenth year as Director of Education and Superintendent of Schools in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. Our Department of Education, of which I am the Director, has ten people. These offices include Religious Education, Pastoral Ministry, Library/Media Center, and Schools. As the Director of the Department I have hired all of the other nine members and am directly accountable to Archbishop Coakley for their performance.

Because we have very competent people on staff, I must admit that I focus most of my energies on the Schools Office in my role as Superintendent. The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City has twenty-two Catholic schools – 20 elementary schools and 2 high schools. These schools are spread out from north to south. It takes almost two hours to get to the schools that are farthest north and south. Some of the schools outside of Oklahoma City are very small and located in rural parts of the State. I still enjoy watching the cows as I drive to them!

The Catholic population of the State is only about 4 ½% and there are few religious in the Catholic schools. In fact, I am one of three sisters who is still in school ministry in any capacity.

The role of superintendent can be quite encompassing so to focus on “what I do” in that capacity is quite a challenge. When I became superintendent I was quickly convinced that if I had good principals, we would have good schools in the Archdiocese. Therefore, during these years I have focused much of my energies on identifying and developing good principals. I sit on every Search Committee for hiring principals and once they are hired we have a full year of professional development for them. They come to bi-monthly in-service meetings which are conducted by my Associate Superintendent and me. We stress with them that they must be the instructional leader as well as the faith leader in their respective buildings. These times together, then, provide formal input as well as time to share their problems and seek advice on how to solve them. I am so proud of the fact that the “Catholic identity” of our schools is very evident. Our principals have taken seriously the charge of being the spiritual leader in the school.

Another aspect of helping principals to grow professionally is the Principal Performance Review process. I



Kay Powers, CND, center, with ACE Teachers who are pursuing their Master's Degree from NDU while teaching full time.

conduct evaluations of each principal, seeking input from teachers, board members and pastors. The principals also present to me their own self-evaluation. After compiling all of the input I meet with each principal to share the results - offering affirmation, challenges and suggestions for future goal setting.

Besides working closely with principals we also act as a resource for pastors of parishes that have schools. When priests are assigned as pastors, the Archbishop asks them to attend an in-service designed and carried out by me. Many of our priests have never attended Catholic school and many are converts from other faiths. As a result, they are not typically familiar with how the governance of a Catholic school should work. So, I try to prepare them for the important role of pastor of a parish school. We help them to understand their appropriate role and perhaps, more importantly, what their role should not be!

A CND has been Superintendent of Schools in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City for 22 years. Without a doubt, I strongly believe that as a community we have made a large impact on Catholic education not only in the Archdiocese but in the entire State of Oklahoma. There are few religious in the school system but I believe we have done a good job in preparing young committed lay people to continue the ministry here in the State of Oklahoma. 🌟

Religious Life in the 21st Century

By: *Theresa Galvan, CND*
(*S. Maureen Therese*)

In our Diocese of Joliet in Illinois, there are 650 women and men Religious who live and minister among a total Catholic population of 621,518, a population which is growing as in many other dioceses in our country. These women and men Religious, as in the past, continue to give selflessly to the many ministries of the Church in service to the needs of the people. By their presence, their personal union with God, their ministries, their prayers, these Religious are living the mission of Jesus. They are keeping before our eyes a God who is compassionate, merciful, and a source of comfort and peace; a God who desires that all of us as followers of Jesus, do the same for others.

My ministry as Delegate for Religious is to be at the service of these Religious; and also at the service of the Bishop, who clearly values and who counts on the presence and ministries of the Religious to continue the mission of Jesus.

To do this, communication and dialogue are essential. And so I spend much time in consultation with communities and individuals, and in coordinating events which bring

Religious together in prayer and a sharing of ministerial gifts for the mission of Jesus in the Church and world. I communicate the appreciation and hopes of the Bishop to the Religious as he makes known his care for them; and as he invites them to continue sharing their many gifts of presence, ministry, and prayerfulness which they have done for so long and so selflessly.

Religious, women and men who have taken vows of poverty, chastity, obedience in the Church; who live and share in community and have given their lives to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus, have always prayerfully sought to act in response to the needs of the times in which they live. And so, we have been blessed with schools, hospitals and orphanages that they have built and staffed in outreach to the poorest and most disadvantaged among us. And today, Religious continue that outreach to the neediest among us. We find them still in schools and hospitals; and also in shelters for the homeless, with the abused and addicted, in soup kitchens, in counseling centers, in parish pastoral work among the shut-ins, in religious education for youth and adults, as spiritual directors and in retreat work. The list of what they do, grows with the needs that surface among us all. And for those who can no longer be actively engaged, which they sorely miss, they spend their days in prayer for us all.

It is true that we do not presently have the large numbers of Religious we once had embracing this form of consecrated life in the Church. But, the fire of that call from God continues to move Religious to prayerful and creative action in service for humankind in the name of our God who loves us so deeply. And they do not act alone. With the married, the single, the clergy, a communion of disciples and followers of Jesus are called to work together in restoring a world alive with God's presence, goodness, harmony and peace for all God's creation. ❁



Photo By: Marilyn Mulcahy

Theresa Galvan, CND



*May 3, 2011:
CND Associate,
Ellen Lynch, left,
tutoring at
Children's
Community
School,
Waterbury, CT.*



*Betty King, CND,
left, teaching
English as a
second language
at Caroline House,
Bridgeport, CT.*

CND Associate Relationship

By: Joan Mahoney, CND, Coordinator

“What difference does it make in my life that I am a CND Associate?” The responses of the two associates in this article reflect the gift of the Associate Relationship to the CND. Dominique and her husband Tom Baroco became CND Associates in 2004, a year before CND Sisters left Pensacola, FL. The Associate Community of seven continues the CND presence and spirit.



Baroco Family

Dominique Baroco

Twice in recent years, two close friends in unrelated conversations said, “We, you and I, are not going to be saints. That’s for others.” At both times, I was speechless. Inside, I know that each of us is called to be a saint. For me, my associate relationship with the Congregation of Notre Dame gives me a simple, yet clear path to living a holy, saintly life.

The Visitation spirituality reminds me to see and take time to greet Jesus in each person. It’s so easy to see a person’s shortcomings or flaws...to see all that makes them human. The Visitation guides us to look past all of that and truly see the gift and uniqueness of each person whom God created and in whom He dwells. For me, Visitation moments happen when my small child wants to ask me a question at a time when I am very busy; when the check-out clerk at the grocery store needs to share her joy of her new kitten, when I connect with other associates over email. Keeping the wisdom of the Visitation ever-present in my mind, I am able to stop and enjoy these gifts of moments that I might otherwise ignore.

The Pentecost spirituality gently encourages me to find my gifts, share them, and be open to the work of the Holy Spirit. The gift may be as simple as the ability to share a kind smile with others, but it is a gift to be shared. As a mother of five small children, there are so many moments when I feel like I cannot do my job on my own. Especially at these moments, I realize that the Holy Spirit is with me always - ready to help me find more of what I need to do the task before me.

Finally, I am inspired by the example of Marguerite Bourgeoys. Marguerite’s life and actions provide real-life examples of living the Visitation-Pentecost spirituality. What inspires me most, however, was her ability to use her gifts where she was. If children needed a teacher, she taught them. If her companions needed care or a friend, she shared what she could offer. When the moment presented itself, she offered what she had.

The world may never see these Visitation moments, the sharing of our gifts, or that we have the heart and soul of a saint. That’s not the point. This is simply the wonderful path that God has placed before us, a path full of great joy! For me, the spirituality of the Congregation of Notre Dame is exactly the gentle guidance that inspires me to stay close to what’s important!



Left, Julissa Quinones; Center, Chef Linda Kane; Right, Susan Connery

Susan Connery

I am Susan Connery, Director of a Community Service Center at an urban university, Associate from RI, and 2011 US Associate Delegate for the General Chapter in Cornwall, Ontario.

Saying “YES” as a lay woman to become a Congregation of Notre Dame Associate means I am connecting with the spirit of the CND sisters and vowing to grow in their Christian commitment and spirituality by living out the charism of Marguerite Bourgeoys, their/our foundress. I have been a CND Associate since 2003. Being an Associate provides me with faith-filled friends that challenge me to grow. It gives me a sense of belonging to and being committed to something larger than myself (Sisters and Associates are in eight countries and four continents). I gain a greater understanding and appreciation for how to bring about justice, not excluding but supporting humanity with the Eucharist and Mary as my foundation.

I am Marguerite’s hands and feet today as I help Johnson & Wales University grow as a civic-minded institution, through innovative collaborations with community agencies,

continued on page 5

Many Hats

By: Margaret Farley, CND
(S. Margaret Rose)

At present, I am the Director of School Personnel in the Office of Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Chicago. There are 216 elementary and 40 secondary schools; only seven of the secondary schools are sponsored by the Archdiocese. The others are sponsored by a religious congregation or a board of specified jurisdiction.

Over several decades, I have worn many hats! I served as consultant to approximately half of the elementary school principals, pastors and local school boards. With multi-parish reorganizations and school consolidations, I worked on school consolidations/mergers/closures and the forming of consolidated school boards. Later I oversaw approximately seventy-five school evaluation processes that combined Archdiocesan and State of Illinois school improvement processes. I also served on response teams that went out to parishes where there was a crisis.

I also serve on the Archdiocesan Policy Approval process and work on the annual committee that recommends salaries and benefits for all Archdiocesan employees for the next fiscal year.

For the past dozen years, I have been serving as Director of School Personnel. It is the largest Catholic school system in the nation. There are 61,700 elementary school and 24,500 secondary school students.

Much of my time is spent recruiting and approving new and transfer teachers; this includes working with area colleges' schools of education. Last spring and summer, approximately 700 new teacher applicants were processed and approximately 300 were placed in the Archdiocesan schools. At present, I am looking forward to the final selection of a company that will be able to automate an electronic system the applicants can use to process their

own teacher application. Principals will be able to tap into the credentials of the approved applicants through a web based process.

At the present time in the history of the church, lay Catholic educators far outnumber the religious serving in the archdiocese; this is seen as a positive outcome of the years religious served in Catholic education. This school year there are eleven religious elementary school principals and approximately thirty-five religious teachers in elementary schools. Many of the religious who are teachers are sisters from other countries, especially from Mexico, India and African countries.

When I mentioned to Francis Cardinal George that I have been in the Office of Catholic Schools during the tenure of three Cardinals and seven Superintendents of Schools, he quietly responded: "You could write the book...!" ❁



Francis Cardinal George and Margaret Farley, CND

CND Associate Relationship, from page 4

strategic partnerships and resource sharing, particularly in the areas of hunger, homelessness, education and capacity building. I am a bridge builder promoting community leadership — "the strategic use of resources to address community needs." between the haves and the have-nots. Our society depends on the involvement of educated, motivated citizens who understand the role they play in the work of community building and problem solving. I try and encourage students to be civically prepared and able

to understand the importance of civic engagement, connect with those who feel disconnected and lack basic citizenship skills. I believe civic education is the responsibility of educational institutions and challenge students to become engaged in democratic life. My passion for public service and for young people is driven from a place of faith.

My commitment as an Associate is supported by my own prayer and the prayers of the CND sisters, CND Associates, friends and my family. ❁

News from the Office of Mission Advancement

You can make donations on line by accessing our site www.cnd-m.org click **Works and Ministries**, then **Office of Mission Advancement**, then **Have You thought about Giving**.

ENROLLMENT CARDS

You can view our Enrollment cards on our website, www.cnd-m.org click **Works and Ministries**, then **Office of Mission Advancement** and click **more** on **A Card for Every Occasion**. *Ordering information is also on that page.*



Mary Anne Powers, CND, center, accepting The Father Thomas H. Dwyer Award on behalf of the Congregation of Notre Dame in recognition of their efforts to advance the mission of Children's Community School, Waterbury, CT.

Catherine McDermott, CND (S. Edward Marie) received the Veritas Award at St. Pius Parish in Rhode Island on January 29, 2012. See more on our Website under "In the News."



From left to right, Martha Bowes, CND (S. Martin of Lima), Rita Guariglia and Linda Rascona, who minister at St. Marguerite Bourgeoy's Parish in Brookfield, CT

Check out our Facebook Page at Congregation of Notre Dame/USA



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY CLASS OF 1961

Several CND Sisters attended the 50th Reunion of the 1961 Graduating Class of St. Mary of the Visitation Academy, West Warwick, Rhode Island in October, 2011.



A Tribute to Sister Rose Galligan, CND

By: *Kate Dolan, CND Associate*

I have been thinking about the mixture of sadness and joy I experienced the day of Sister Rose's wake. How tenderly the Notre Dame community responded and received all who came to make this visit and pray with each other. There were so many students, teachers and sisters welcoming the guests, showing the way, and even providing sandwiches and coffee with a place to sit and talk. Though unable to attend the funeral, I heard it was beautiful and uplifting, especially the young choir singing "Spirit Seeking". It is wonderful the way the Notre Dame teachers are passing on Marguerite's charism in 2012.

Many Notre Dame graduates were there, several of whom are now NDA teachers and in administration. Their enthusiasm, dedication and commitment are evident. Though some alumnae did not know Sr. Rose personally, they came because they wanted to acknowledge this loss in a community so dear to them. As one alumna said, "I am more connected to NDA than I am to my college or even my parish community...this is where I learned so much that has stayed with me."

Sr. Rose brought us together in the new chapel in the heart of the Academy grounds. The beauty and symbolism of this chapel was overwhelming for me. With all the costs necessary for so many needs, this chapel speaks volumes to what is also important in a young woman's education. It is a place to nurture the contemplative side,



*Sr. Rose Mary Galligan, CND
(S. Sean Joseph)
1939 - 2012*

to have rituals and prayer time, a place where when you walk in, you feel awed by its grace and simplicity; drawn to sit and pray in this structure which conveys some of the intimacy and sweetness of God.

I spent a good part of my early teaching years walking up and down the Rose Garden Path working with and being inspired by the community of sisters, parents, teachers and students of the Notre Dame Community. And I know that this story is repeated in so many places where CNDs are. How many, many vocations (in the wide sense of the word!) have been midwived by the sisters.

Sometimes we look so hard for the new movement, the new presence in our church, but perhaps the newness is right here in front of us. How will we hold it...? give it voice? At times a parish where we feel at home can be difficult to find, yet we need to find places that offer a little inspiration, or nurture the desire for prayer. After the wake, I visited a friend who said to me. "Remember the evening prayer in the little chapel on Sunday nights? Remember Sister Monica and the animal blessings?" The CNDs were and are church for so many. We are wonderfully spoiled by the beauty of our time together in the CND circle. In the ever expanding CND community, may we see how to continue to weave these threads of prayer together with each other. The celebration of Sr. Rose's life and death called us to such an experience. 🌸



Patricia Corley, CND, President of Notre Dame Academy, Staten Island, NY, pictured with pre-K children in the new Early Childhood building.



Sally Norcross, CND, left, Assistant Principal of All Saints School, Norwalk, CT with Mrs. Fahey, right, and her Kindergarten class.

 IN GRATITUDE 

The Congregation of Notre Dame received donations for the
CND Retirement Fund in memory of **Sister Elizabeth Kennedy, CND**

The Sisters of the Congregation are most grateful!

Please join us in praying for our deceased Sisters

IN MEMORY OF

Elizabeth Kennedy, CND (Mother St. Marguerite-Miriam) d. September 27, 2011

Rose Mary Galligan, CND (Mother St. Sean Joseph) d. January 6, 2012

Marguerite Chiasson, CND (Mother St. Amand) d. January 19, 2012

*All I have ever desired is that the great precept of the love of God above
all things and of the neighbor as oneself be written in every heart.*

ST. MARGUERITE BOURGEOYS

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

**Mission Orientation of the
Congregation of Notre Dame**

To follow Jesus in a preferential option for the poor and to live our mission of liberating education in fidelity to the prophetic charism of Marguerite Bourgeoys in today's world, we commit ourselves to live closer to the reality of the impoverished, the excluded and the oppressed. In solidarity with them, we commit ourselves to protect our planet and to participate actively in the transformation of Church and society for a more just world.

(Mission Orientation, Chapters 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011 with additions)

Ways of Giving: Planned Giving

When you leave a share of your estate to the Congregation of Notre Dame, Blessed Sacrament Province, you leave a living legacy to further advance the mission of the Congregation. The Congregation of Notre Dame relies on gifts from generous friends to partner with us in supporting the presence of a CND in our varied ministries. Your bequest of stocks, bonds, cash, trust funds (by naming the Congregation of Notre Dame as beneficiary of a trust), the proceeds from life insurance policies or other property will help assure our life and work in the future. Please contact us for our current literature.

**For more information feel free to call (203) 762-4306 or fax us at (203) 762-4319.
Please e-mail us at cnddev@juno.com with any comments or suggestions.**
