

CONGRÉGATION DE NOTRE-DAME

Éducation libératrice
Liberating Education
真の自由への教育
Educación liberadora

Blessed Sacrament Province
Mission Advancement Office

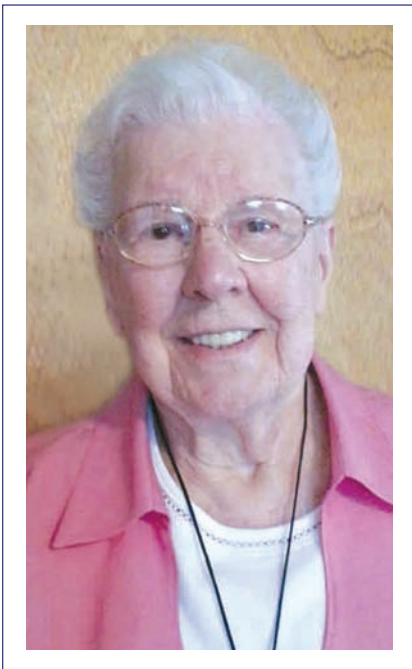
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2017-2018 Annual Appeal

Dear Friend,

“Every person we meet is made in the likeness of God: I have Christ in me, you have Christ in you. How can we deny someone and call ourselves Christians?” - Sr. Thérèse Martin, CND

Here’s a typical day for Sr. Terry Martin, CND:



An 18 year-old woman, Lucia (not her real name), has been beaten by her father. She’s in a shelter for abused women and children. She’s been attending community college and wants to be a neonatal nurse. Sr. Terry, witnessing the family’s difficulty, spends time with Lucia’s younger siblings, so Lucia can sort out how to continue her studies.

A husband broke his leg and can’t work. He and his wife and two children live in one room. The electricity was turned off. The rent is due. Sr. Terry tapped into donations and came up with \$300 to pay the rent and electricity. What will happen next month?

The drug business in this corner of Appalachia is big. A woman’s husband decides to sell. But if he’s caught, the woman will go to jail too, because she’s been helping him. She turns to Sr. Terry for guidance.

Phew! That’s just one day. Sr. Terry is Far Western North Carolina Outreach Worker for the Diocese of Charlotte – a fancy way of saying she does a bit of everything for the residents of this impoverished region.

Will you help Sr. Terry continue her life-saving ministry to the poor and forgotten in the heart of Appalachia? Please give to our 2017-2018 Annual Appeal.

Sr. Terry has served in Appalachia for 39 years, the last 26 of which have been in far west North Carolina. She loves her ministry. What does she like most? The people. “They’re so humble, welcoming and willing to share.”

For someone in her 80s, Sr. Terry is extraordinarily busy. She’s resourceful at getting donations of everything from food and clothing to cars and appliances. People in the community know that Sr. Terry runs a kind of pick up and delivery service.

(over, please)





She visits the sick. She arranges for domestic violence victims to get to shelters. She brings shoes, coats and school supplies to children in struggling families. She tutors their parents in GED programs and ESL classes. She teaches sewing and cooking. She takes people to the doctor and follows up with them at home. She advocates on their behalf to lawyers and police. She helps immigrant families find jobs, furniture and affordable housing.

Your Annual Appeal gift of \$50 or \$100 or more will supplement Sr. Terry's stipend. She's just one of our Sisters who ministers to the needy and vulnerable and receives little or no pay. The Congregation of Notre Dame must cover these Sisters' expenses.

Sr. Terry turns no one away. Her inspiration is St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, foundress of the Congregation of Notre Dame. St. Marguerite established the first community of women religious in North America who were not cloistered. She wanted her Sisters to be able to go wherever they were needed.

"How privileged and blessed I am to be a daughter of St. Marguerite and to share her sincere desire to love God and neighbor in Appalachia."

Sr. Terry has passed on St. Marguerite's giving spirit to many lay women in western North Carolina. Fourteen of these women have become lay associates of the Congregation of Notre Dame. Sr. Terry involves them in a variety of projects and ministries.

She never gives any thought to stopping. Her favorite expression is, "All is a gift, from where we are born to the air we breathe. A gift is not to keep but to share – that's what God is doing for us every single second of our lives."

Please celebrate the gift that is Sr. Terry with a gift to our Annual Appeal.

With gratitude,

Mary Anne Powers, CND
Province Leader

PS: We realize \$50 or \$100 may be large gifts for some, while others can give more. Please know that whatever amount you give is greatly appreciated.

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Sr. Terry has been serving the needy and vulnerable of Appalachia for 39 years. Please give to our Annual Appeal and support Sr. Terry in her vital ministry. *Sr. Terry is just one of the CNDs who ministers to the poor and receives only a stipend or no pay at all. Your gift will help cover these Sisters' expenses, and those of our retired and infirm CNDs as well.*

Yes! I want to support the powerful work of Sr. Terry Martin and all the CNDs.
I understand that my Annual Appeal gift will aid all the Sisters, those in active ministry like Sr. Terry, and elderly and infirm CNDs as well.

Please accept my one-time gift of \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 I prefer to give \$_____

Please enroll me in the *Visitation Companions* program with a monthly gift of

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 I prefer to give \$_____

PLEASE ACCEPT

- My check made payable to the *Congregation of Notre Dame*
 My credit card Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

_____/_____
Credit Card # Exp. Date Cardholder's Name

_____(_____)_____
Signature Telephone Email

My/Our gift is in honor/memory of _____.

I would like my/our gift to remain **anonymous** (your name will not appear in our Honor Roll).

My/Our Special Intentions are on the back of this form.

- To give online, visit www.cnd-m.org; USA Office of Mission Advancement; Have you thought about giving?
- To provide a gift of stocks or a bequest, please contact our Mission Advancement Office at 203-762-4306.
- For matching gifts, please enclose your company's matching gift form.

Please return this form in the enclosed reply envelope.

Our Annual Appeal runs from July 1st through June 30th every year.

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*Thank you for
your generosity!*

