

Sacro Speco Sacred Space

THE BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF CHICAGO MAGAZINE + WINTER/SPRING 2022



God Knows What is Best

An Interview with Oblate Deacon John Chavez and the profound influence of the late Sister Joan Hentges, OSB

By Siobhán O'Neill Meluso

Winter/Spring Issue 2022, vol. XXXII, no. 2





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Sacro Speco is a publication of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

We are Benedictine women called to seek God in prayer and community, serving where there is need. *Sacro Speco* is a biannual publication of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago for Oblates, Alumnae, and friends of the community.

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Letter from the Prioress



Sister Judith Murphy, OSB Prioress

Dear Friends,

Dear Friends,

Our mission as Benedictine women is a profound calling. 1500 years after our patrons Benedict and Scholastica first established the Benedictine Way of Life, we continue to seek God through Ora et Labora, our daily prayer and work. We continue to seek God in prayer and community and to serve where there is need. Many of our Sisters have been teachers at regional parishes and at one or both of our schools – St. Scholastica High School in Chicago or Mount St. Scholastica Academy in Cañon City, CO. Over our 160-year history, our work has evolved from teaching to serving as spiritual directors, counselors, campus ministers, and advocates for immigration and social justice issues.

In spite of the pandemic environment of physical distancing, the threat of global warming, and the challenge of racial reckoning, we find hope in the success stories of those we have served. In this issue of Sacro Speco, discover how our late Sister Joan Hentges, OSB encouraged Deacon John Chavez not only to become an Oblate in Colorado, but also to follow his calling to the Diaconate. You'll read about Maria Carreira ('79 SSA Chicago graduate) and her flourishing linguistics career. Maria recently established the Heritage Language Exchange, a program to serve teachers of immigrant students. She recognized the need through her experience as a Cuban immigrant adapting to the U.S. and as a young student in my Spanish class years ago. Students like her inspired my colleagues and me as we formed the heritage language curriculum at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in the late 90s.

The Sisters and I continue to find new ways to connect virtually now and into the future. We continue discerning our future together to "right-size" our housing needs and hope to share more soon. Thank you for your support and prayers for this venture. And we hope to gather in June for our Annual Testimonial Dinner.

Peace,

Judith Murphy, OSB

Judith Murphy Ost

Letters From You

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

If you have a letter you would like to share here, please contact:

Email smeluso@osbchicago.org with subject line "For Sacro Speco Letters."

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago Attn: Sacro Speco Newsletter 7430 N. Ridge Blvd. Chicago, IL 60645

We will publish letters as space permits.

Monastery News

n August 28th, Sister Vivian Ivantic, OSB celebrated her 108th birthday. Sister Vivian is "the oldest living Benedictine in the World!" Congratulations!! We are grateful and blessed by her over 87 years as a Benedictine Sister of Chicago.

n September 11, Oblate Nancy Labiak led an interactive and exploratory talk on her personal journey along the Camino entitled: "Following the Field of Stars: One Pilgrim's Journey on The Camino de Santiago de Compostela." In her presentation Nancy shared that in the spring of 2014 at age 67, she embarked on the most physically challenging ordeal and yet the most life-giving accomplishment of her life. Nancy's tales of her struggles and triumphs to reach the shrine of the Apostle James the Greater was an inspiration to all in attendance in-person, virtually and on-demand. Oblate Nancy is a living example of perseverance!

Sister Benita Coffey, OSB, Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB, Oblate Kathlyn Myers and members of Sisters and Brothers of Immigrants (SBI) continue to advocate for a "world of inclusion" through their social justice promotion. On Sept. 25, they all attended a public witness/vigil to protest the continuance of Title 42 (denying entry into the U.S. without a hearing or any proof of contagion) as well as to support all our immigrant brothers and sisters. At the intersection of Ashland/Division/Milwaukee (near the Blue Line), their presence was seen as they held signs in solidarity for an end to this injustice.

In honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago hosted a *Virtual Season of Creation Prayer Service* on Oct. 4th. This gathering brought to mind the importance and challenges that humanity faces in coming to grips with Ecological Conversion. This service incorporated prayer, scripture readings, and a short video, all highlighting once again, the significance of Pope Francis' Encyclical *Laudato Si*.



Betty Jackson, (pictured above left), of Hyde Park area of Chicago was received as an Oblate candidate by Sister Judith Murphy, OSB in a private ceremony on Saturday October 23, 2021. She is being mentored by Oblate Colleen Mullarkey, (picutred right), who is also a Hyde Park resident.

Bethany House of Hospitality celebrated its 4-year Anniversary on Oct. 24th-Congratulations! BHH continues to offer housing and support services to young immigrant women as they journey to independence. Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB serves as the Board President.

Chicago area members of Communicators for Women Religious (CWR) organized the third annual Meet Our Sisters Tour, a collaborative National Vocation Awareness Week (NVAW) event designed to raise awareness about the hundreds of Catholic Sisters who live and serve in Chicagoland. The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago welcomed guests via Zoom for a LIVE Chapel Tour led by several Sisters. Vocation Minister Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB, with her Chicago based Vocation colleages, hosted the "Chicago's Got Sisters Virtual Event" Oct. 30th. This event began with a short talk on the theme of "Discerning with the Saints." Time for prayer and reflection; as well as brief introductions to the diverse group of communities and charisms took place.

Our annual Donor Appreciation Mass, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, went virtual! Although we missed gathering with our family, friends, and benefactors, again this year, we felt your presence. At the closing of Mass, the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago extended their hands in a final blessing for all our Alumnae, Donors, Oblates, and Friends. We are grateful to all of you!

"...in memory of her."



Genevieve Franciska Hane, daughter of Oblates Benedict and Rachel Hane (2019-2021)

Genevieve Franciska Hane, 2 years and 7 months, of Glen Ellyn, passed away suddenly on October 10, 2021. An avid artist who enjoyed the mediums of sand piles, playdough, crayons, and finger painting; reader of all books; piano key pounder, drummer and singer; botanist and mud pie baker; she hugged all and lit up the lives of everyone around her. She could play and swing at a park for hours and was working on her ukulele skills. Genevieve typically knew exactly what she wanted and how to get her loved ones to change their plans and follow her lead. She loved gymnastics and was finetuning her summersault and balance

beam abilities. She enjoyed trying new sports and activities, but it was the giggle and cuddle fests with beloved friends that she enjoyed more than the games themselves. An **honorary Benedictine Oblate**, she knew how to say her dinner prayers and loved gathering with her community in person and online.

Genevieve knew how loved she was, and returned that love abundantly. Genevieve will forever be remembered in her loved ones' stories.

Please continue to keep Oblates Benedict and Rachel Hane and family in prayer.



Left to Right: The late Sister Joan Hentges with Oblate John Chavez in Pueblo, CO in April 2016.

God Knows What is Best

An Interview with Oblate Deacon John Chavez and the profound influence of the late Sister Joan Henteges, OSB by Siobhán O'Neill Meluso

years ago, a youth minister named John Chavez was just another parishioner attending Christ the King, a large parish in Pueblo, Colorado. He wasn't particularly fond of Sister Joan Hentges, OSB, who served alongside Monsignor Tom Adrian as the church's pastoral associate. He felt excluded from the inner-serenity and grace she exuded. Over time, her Benedictine hospitality and spiritual mentorship won him over, paving the way for him to not only become an Oblate but, as of August 2021, also serve in the Deaconate.

"Are you a deacon or a visiting deacon?" parishioners frequently asked Chavez, who'd been struggling for years with his vocation. One time, Sister Joan overheard this exchange. She grabbed him gently by the arm, turned him around, looked him straight in the eyes, and delivered words he'd never forget. "Alright mister. God has been calling you for a long time and you're ignoring that call. It's time for you to pay attention. Since it's Lent, make this your Lenten discernment to become a deacon. I want your answer by Easter!" Sister Joan didn't have to wait long. It's as though her certainty gave him the confidence to finally accept the challenge. Shocking even himself, he responded "Okay, Sister!" to which Sister Joan replied, "It's about time!"

But there was a roadblock ahead: the next formation class wouldn't begin for another year.

Armed with a clear sense of direction, Chavez waited patiently to begin the formal process. Once he started, and over the course of the next four plus years, he relied on his Benedctine spirituality – everything from the tenets to finding the Monastery and listening through God's voice in prayer and lectio – to guide him as he navigated this lifechanging journey.

And then came an unexpected twist.

Despite Chavez's comfort with youth ministry, the formation process required a rotation in a different field. When Deacon Dan Leetch, a fellow Oblate who works in prison ministry, encouraged Chavez to join him, Chavez initially resisted. "I didn't think this was my calling." But when a volunteer spot at Canon City Prison became available, "I overcame my initial fears" and gave it a try.

Having never been surrounded by barbed wires or buzzed through security doors, his unease eventually gave way to connection after he surrendered in prayer and shared his faith struggles with ten young inmates. This was yet another reminder of Sister Joan's encouraging words: *God knows what is best. (Continued. page 6)*



Group of deacons after ordination with the Bishop on the altar of the Cathedral: L-R: Dcn. Dan Leetch (Oblate; also Director of Deacon Formation and Permanent Deacons for the Diocese of Pueblo); Dcn. Paul Wolyn (Rye, Colorado); Alonso Kennedy – Grand Junction, CO; Immanuel Santistevan – Pueblo, CO; Dcn. Chris Peterson – Durango, CO; Dcn. Chavez – Pueblo; Bishop Stephen J. Berg; Dcn. Carl Cook – Pueblo, CO; Edwin Schmidt – Crested Butte, CO; Dcn. Joshua Boden – Gunnison, CO; Dcn. Mike Anderson – (Asst. Dir. of Deacon Formation – Gunnison, CO).

"In spite of myself, I fell in love with prison ministry," shared Deacon Chavez who recently applied to the Colorado Department of Corrections to become the Associate Chaplain for the Youthful Offender Service.

After almost five years of self-examination and discovery, ordination day finally arrived. While the days and the weeks to arrive at this extraordinary, hard-fought moment seemed long, the formation process flew by for Chavez. "The grace-filled day of ordination was a day we all stayed in the moment," Chavez recalls. "I'll never forget kneeling before the bishop and being presented the Book of the Gospels. The responsibility that comes with proclaiming the Word, and the laying on the hands during the ceremony symbolizing being

part of that apostolic tradition is something I'll cherish in my ministry as a Deacon."

Assigned to Christ the King Parish where it all began, Chavez

was reunited with Pastor Fr. Carl Wharton whom he met at a search retreat 20 years prior. God brought them together again.

"The grace-filled day
of ordination
was a day we all
stayed in the
moment"

-Oblate Deacon John Chavez

Deacon Chavez looks forward to offering a maximum service to God despite not knowing what that looks like and is open to it. Two oblates in Pueblo, Rich and Teresa Dudley waited until after John's ordination so he could celebrate the baptism of their grandchild at this first baptism as a deacon. In the meantime, Deacon Chavez continues to "Listen with the ear of his heart," as St. Benedict proclaimed in the prologue of The Rule. And of course, he continues to meet with the Colorado Oblate group with Sister Mary Susan Remsgar, OSB. Deacon Chavez's job at the Pueblo

Diocese Chancery keeps him busy and his services as a Deacon at Christ the King Parish, in Pueblo is right where he is supposed to be as **God knows what's best.**

Chavez kneeling before the Bishop for a blessing and being presented with the Book of the Gospels.







Deacon John Chavez on ordination day.



L-R: Mercedes Hansen, Tristan Hansen, Dcn. Chavez and Janae Hansen: Nieces and nephew of Chavez.









Top right and middle right photo is of the deacons during Ordination.
Bottom right photo-Final Formation Class photo in the Chapel at the
Catholic Pastoral Center. Front Row: (L-R): Immanuel Santistevan, Carl Cook,
John Chavez. Back Row: (L-R): Alonso Kennedy; Edwin Schmidt, Josh Boden:
Chris Peterson, Paul Wolyn.

The baptism of little Brixton Calderon was at Christ the King Parish where Dcn. Chavez is assigned. Sr. Joan Hentges spent at least 40 years there. The baptismal font was donated to Christ the King by the Hentges Family.

St. Scholastica Alumnae & Teachers Reunite



Photos, top row, left to right, 1) 50th Reunion class, 1971, assemble for a group photo at the SSA reunion luncheon at Chateau Ritz 2) 1971 Alumnae Nancy De Napoli modeling the gym uniform 3) Members of SSA 1960 gather for a group photo. Second row, I to r, 1) Class of 1970 50th Reunion finally celebrating in-person! 2) 1965 Susie's all smiles! 3) The three musketeers from 1980 enjoying the yearbook 40 years on! Third row, I to r, 1) 1961 SSA Alumnae joyful to gather with the other classes 2) Sister Judith Murphy, OSB and SSA '60 at the podium, 3)1991 grads with Sister Judith Zonsius, OSB SSA '70 photo below -2001 Alumnae with Sister Susan Quaintance, OSB at right; Bottom left, 1) 1981 Alumnae the largest participating class at SSA Reunion! Congrats! SSA Reunion luncheon was held Sept. 19 at Chateau Ritz. On Sept. 18th, a limited number of Alumnae celebrated Mass at the St. Scholastica Chapel. Thank you all for a joyous weekend!

"...in memory of her."

Rosie Lee Humes Randle Nov. 2, 1933-Sept. 12, 2021

Rosie Lee Humes Randle was born on November 7, 1933 (but normally celebrated her birthday on November 2) on a plantation outside of Harriston, Mississippi near Natchez. Rosie was the youngest child of Cordelia Humes (nee McCoy) and Steve Humes, who were sharecroppers. Rosie always had a desire to love and serve the Lord. She recalled that, when she was seven years, she told her mother, "I just want to be good, say my prayers, and read my Bible." Mama said, "You will, baby. You will." Rosie was a diligent student who walked twelve miles to school every day. She had the distinction of being the only person in her family to graduate from the eighth grade, a mark of her perseverance and her family's support in the Jim Crow South.

Rosie married Roger Randle on April 15, 1950. She moved to Chicago, Illinois, when she was seventeen years old. On that train ride, she was expecting her only child, Susie, who was born in Chicago on February 22, 1951. During those early years in Chicago, Rosie worked as a housekeeper at the Allerton Hotel (now known as the Warwick Allerton Hotel), one of downtown Chicago's most historic hotels. She made the acquaintance of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago when she lived in the Cabrini Green Homes on Chicago's North Side when the water broke in her apartment and the sisters



gave her a bucket of water. In the early 1960s, Rosie began working as a custodian at St.



Scholastica Academy. Rosie worked seven days a week- six days at St. Scholastica and as a housekeeper in the homes of several families on Sundays. She began attending Saturday Mass at the Monastery and, over time, decided to convert to Catholicism. Rosie's daughter, Susie, graduated from St. Scholastica in the Class of 1970. Susie was one of the first members of the school's Afro-American Club and was one of the first African-American students to graduate from the school. Rosie walked to work and saved bus fare to pay Susie's tuition so that her daughter could have an excellent education. Rosie later gave part of her retirement savings to start the Rosie Randle Scholarship, which paid for an African American student to attend St. Scholastica. The scholarship played an important role in the school becoming more diverse until it closed in the late 2013.

(Excerpt from the Obituary provided by the family of Rosie Randle).

In Memoriam

St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago

Felice Carey Guardalabene (1940), (*deceased 3/26/2020) sister of deceased Lorraine Carey Belluomini (1947)

Marie Gormaly Allen (1942) (*deceased 8/20/2018)

Eleanor Schmitt Sheehy (1942) Marjorie Igliori Boesen (1946)

Patricia Boyle Hankins (1946)

Anne Marie Kapner Flood (1947)

Peter J. Flood, son of deceased Anne Marie Kapner Flood (1947)

Sister Mary Frances Schermerhorn, OSB (1948), sister of Margaret A. Schermerhorn (1951) and Nancy Van Der Bosch (1956)

Ronald W. Johnson, husband of Charlotte Johnson (1949)

Estelle "Sis" McMahon Schaefer (1949), sister of Ann McMahon Metzer (1953)

Joan Marie Marsden Morrison (1951)

Carol Smessaert Nee (1951)

Barbara Eiden McDonough Gauer (1952) Helen Hoyle Gola (1952), sister of Doris Hoyle Batt (1953) and deceased Shirley

Doris J. Kreutzer Haas (1952)

Hoyle (1954)

Donald Wehling, husband of Mary

Lambrecht Wehling (1953) Betty Lou McChesney Haus (1956) (*de-

ceased 2/11/2021)

Leo Devarenne, husband of Suzanne Miller Devarenne (1957)

Carol Sutherland Healy (1957)

John O'Malley, S.J., brother of Joanne O'Malley Kelly (1958)

John Paul Kenny, Jr. (*deceased 8/26/2019), son of Maureen Cowhey Kenny (1958) and nephew of Patricia Cowhey (1955)

Suzanne Kathryn Dupré (1959), sister of Laureen Youtsey (1957), Jacqueline (Nancy) Fallucco (1962), Marikay Boraca (1965) and Joanne Nelson (1969)

Margaret Klein (1960), sister of Mary Asnis (1958), deceased Fran Klein (1961), and deceased Dolores Klein O'Farrell (1962)

Bert E. Lahman, husband of Diane Mancuso Lahman (1960)

Marilyn Kiefer Provencher (1960) Roberta Knisley Christensen (1961) (*deceased January, 2014)

Judith Heelan Jensen (1961), sister of deceased Marlene Heelan (1953) and deceased Suzanne Heelan Harrington (1958) Andrew Weissmann, son of Rosemary Gombar Weissmann (1961)

Donna Marie Calderisi (1963)

Sheila McGovern Hohmann (1964) Mary Christine Roman (1966)

Madonna Margaret Siles (1966)

Kathryn Dolan (1970)

Patrick Murphy, son of Deborah Sauer Murphy (1970), nephew of Doralil Sauer Pugliese (1964) and D'Ann Sauer Kelty (1966)

Rosie Randle, mother of Susie Randle Craig (1970)

Katharina Bappert, mother of Betty Bappert Weidenbach (1970)

Raymond Wenholz, brother of Mary Wenholz Jarger (1973)

Grace Wrenn Gaughan (1976), niece of deceased Sister Anna Wrenn, OSB (1953) and sister of Catherine Wrenn (1986)

Nancy Geralyn Naughton (1976) (deceased *2/8/2020)

Patrick E. Fahey, father of Christine Fahey (1981) and Mary Beth Fahey (1982)

Janet Barnes McPartlan (1981)

Ninette Joseph-Laroche, mother of Marie-Rose Hagerman (1982) and deceased Emmanuella Joseph (1983)

Vicki Vetrano Sopcak (1983)

Ma. Priscila (Celang) Calma Evasco, aunt of Pamela Aceron (1997) and Mary Grace Aceron (2002)

St. Scholastica Academy, Cañon City

Donald W. Foster, husband of Rose Ann Stock Foster (1955)

Patricia Jane Cates (1975)

The above represents notices received June 12, 2021-November 1, 2021. *denotes that death was prior to June 12, 2021, but we received notice of their death in the last several months.





Valedictorian Maria Carreira: Part of the legend of the

SSA Spanish Class Births the Study and Advocacy for Language Minority Students An Interview with SSA Chicago '79 Alumna, Dr. Maria M. Carreira Ph.D.

by Siobhán O'Neill Meluso

Maria M. Carreira, Ph.D., Professor Emerita of Spanish, California State University, Long Beach, and her family left Cuba when she was 8 to move to Spain where her paternal grandparents are from. She never imagined four years later, moving again to the United States and being taught by the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago at St. Scholastica High School. It was the many caring and warm teachers she encountered at SSA that influenced her life's work in linguistics and language minority research, unbeknownst to the Sisters as well.

By the time Maria Carreira had reached SSA, she had only been in the United States for a few years. It was very noticeable that there were hardly any Hispanics in the school. "It certainly was not the norm and the Sisters may not have been trained on how to deal with language minority students," recalls Maria. However, Sister Judith Murphy, OSB intuitively knew what to do. "I remember Sister Judith even before the first day of instruction, had called my house and asked me to take an assessment exam." Dr. Carreira shares that beginning with assessment is crucial for language minority students like herself because educators can then build a curriculum responsive to the student based on the results of the assessment. From that assessment, Sister Judith realized that focus-

ing on verb conjugations for Spanish 1 and 2 would not be helpful to Maria, but instead focusing on literacy was the route to take with her and other language minority students.

When young immigrant students begin school, the focus is on acclimating them to the new language and culture. Thus, Maria had lost some of her fluency in Spanish through migration and acclimation to English. She was quickly learning English in tandem. Because language acquisition takes about 7 years, Maria was doing quite well adjusting to a new language while maintaining her native Spanish at home. By the time she arrived at SSA, Sister Judith applied a basic principle of language teaching and learning: instructors need to build on what learners bring to the classroom. Acquiring a second language is different: the student starts at the very beginning. Language minority students, like Maria, bring some skills but many deficiencies as well. Students whose home language is Spanish might be placed into Spanish 1 for formal instruction. That is a disservice to students says Maria based on her personal and professional experience; this does not take into account her competency in the home language. Sister Judith realized that was not the best way to teach Maria.

During Maria's freshmen year she had a lot of one-on-one time with Sister Judith as her literacy skills improved. This was a very meaningful experience that Maria has never forgotten. Instead of being singled out in a less positive way because of her minority language, she was singled out in a very good way by recognizing her proficiency in the home language. This benefited Maria. By the end of her high school career, Maria had excelled and was Valedictorian for St. Scholastica High School's class of 1979. Taking Spanish for granted, Maria majored in Math and Computer Science at Loyola University Chicago.

At Loyola, her love of languages was strengthened in her studies of French and Italian. After undergrad, Maria tried one year of law school but felt it was not for her. Linguistics was the natural path for Maria. She pursued an MA and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, specializing in phonology, a more technical part of linguistics. It wasn't until she arrived in California and worked at California State University Long Beach (CSULB) that she encountered a sizeable population of native or heritage Spanish speakers. Through working with these students Maria began to identify with them and realized their shared experience. So, Maria found her way back to Spanish and teaching. She has taught from 1998 to the present.

In 2013 Maria co-wrote a book Voces: Latino Students on Life in the United States. In the preface she proudly credits St. Scholastica and how the Sisters and teachers inspired her to know and love literature. Their way of teaching demonstrated social justice in action. "Their work with me was the real work of social justice," Maria shares. Teachers like Sister Rita Nowak and Sister Patricia Crowley also inspired Maria. She goes on to explain, that the field of teaching languages to language minority students is much more than teaching language. It is about reaching the learners and more sensitively contributing to their experience in a way which better enables students to thrive in their new homeland. Many obstacles may occur, but regarding language, minority students have strengths, including their family culture and faith, which are important factors for Latino students. But these principles apply to all language minority students. The experience of coming from difficult home countries makes these students more resilient. These are important resources for the learners whose virtues and life values are crucial for society at large.

During the pandemic, a period of time when creativity and desire to connect were necessary, Maria established The Heritage Language Exchange program. Some 16 years ago Maria co-founded the National Heritage Language Resource Center (NHLRC) at UCLA with Russian Professor Olga E. Kagan. At this center she published and developed activities for teaching heritage

languages. In 2020, the pandemic allowed Maria to see the amazing potential of Zoom and online conferences. She easily developed an online Zoom conference for project-based learning for language teachers through NHLRC. Maria was able to pivot during this time and it energized her to develop the HLXchange (Heritage Language Exchange). This idea evolved from addressing some of the issues she had encountered with heritage language teachers in her 16 years at the NHLRC. Instead of talking at teachers, HLXchange utilizes these teachers as resources and contributors to draw on their wisdom.

This past October, Maria reached out to Sister Judith and they spoke about her work with Cristo Rey. "Sister Judith and her colleagues were architects ahead of their time when they began the Cristo Rey school in Pilsen, as the teaching of content in two languages was a novel idea in the late 90s," Maria said. This model of education was not just to be academic but to be humanistic. "To see students as people and guide them through acculturation and to success in the education system was so far ahead of its time," Maria exclaimed with enthusiasm. Instinctively these ideas were fantastic but Sister Judith wasn't aware at the time that Maria's research would affirm that the Cristo Rey model of education is most effective with language minority students and families. An upcoming HLXchange program in February will further update participants about ongoing development in Heritage Language at Cristo Rey.

When Maria was writing her 2013 book, she had an epiphany that Sister Judith had already figured it out in 1975!

Teacher helping student and student helping teacher is the story of Sister Judith Murphy, OSB and Maria Carreira. The trajectories of both their lives were influenced by their interaction to strenghten innovative teaching practices. Maria especially notes the Catholic religion dimension of her education as being one of the most important aspects of her experience at SSA. Sister Judith recalls, "Both Sisters Catherine and Mary Jude's philosophy that the student-centered education at SSA typified in Maria's story was a most worthwhile attitude to carry forward to the benefit of a school like Cristo Rey."

Seeing and valuing students as individuals was the most impactful memory Maria felt and emulates in her work with her students and language minority instructors.

SSA Chicago '79 Alumna, Maria Carreira (left) In Jerusalem (right outside the Old City) with her family in Dec. of 2019. Maria and her family spent Christmas Eve in Bethlehem too! From left to right, Maria, followed by her daughter Margot Mel (22), her son Francis (24), the "baby" Carmen (20), her oldest, Gabriel (27), and her husband Bartlett Mel.

Join us for these upcoming events

Feast of St. Scholastica Mass

Thursday, February 10, 2022 5:00 p.m.

To attend virtually please contact: Siobhan O'Neill Meluso, 773.764.2413 x232 communications@osbchicago.org

Celtic Spirituality

A presentation by Mary Deeley Sunday, January 23, 2022 3:00-5:00 p.m., free (in-person and Zoom) Open to the public. Limited Capacity. For more info, contact: Sister Benita Coffey, OSB 773.764.2413 x327

Book Discussion Group

Led by Sister Pat Coughlin, OSB Barbara Brown's *An Altar in the World*

The group will meet on the third Wednesday of each month throughout 2022 at 10-11:00 a.m. and 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Central. We will discuss each chapter and share our experiences.

For more info or to register, contact: Sister Pat Coughlin, OSB, 773.764.2413 x374

Connections and Callings God Calls Us As We Are

Thursdays: Feb. 17, Apr. 21, & Jun. 16, 2022 Young women (18-50) are invited to evenings in prayer, reflection, and discussion on the idea of vocation. To learn more, contact: Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB, vocations@osbchicago.org

Catholic Sisters Week

March 8-14, 2022, free To learn more, contact: Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB, 773.338.7063

What happened to the Roman Catholic Church? What next? by Gabriel Moran

Book review and Discussion with Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB Wednesday, March 30, 2022 7:00 p.m. | Zoom For more info or to register, contact: Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB, 773.764.2413 x374

World Labyrinth Day

Led by Oblate Dan Raven and Sister Mary Melady, OSB Saturday May 7, 2022 Noon - 8 p.m. To learn more, contact: Sister Mary Melady, OSB, 773.764.2413 x231

For more spirituality programs and retreats, visit:

www.osbchicago.org/programs

Looking for support on your journey? Our Sisters also offer spiritual direction and counseling. For more information:

www.osbchicago.org/directionandcounseling



Prayer Ministry

We remember you in our daily prayers.

The following represents Memorial and Special Occasion prayer requests from

June 12, 2021 through November 1, 2021

Memorials

In memory of deceased members of Class of 1957

Marilyn Mayworm McKeown In memory of deceased students and teachers of the Class of 1954

Marilyn Oetringer

In memory of Marie Gormaly Allen **Benedictine Sisters of Chicago**

In memory of Katherine Ambrosio

Linda and Terrance Strauch In memory of Jan Anderson

Nancy Louise Labiak

In memory of Berenice B. Babler

Virginia Lock

In memory of James H. Babler

Maribeth Babler

In memory of Thomas A. Bacci

Joanne Spata

In memory of Katharina Bappert

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Katherine Bathke

Mary Schill

In memory of Judith Beaumont

Judith Lee

In memory of Sheila Berner

Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB

In memory of Raymond Betz

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Virginia Betz Fontana

In memory of Shirley Biar

Sister Hilary Halpin, OSB

In memory of Roland "Rollie" Francis

Biegler

Kathleen Murray

In memory of Marjorie Igliori Boesen

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Rosalie Brunk

Virginia Lock

In memory of Sandra Bullard

Mike and Eileen Moorman

In memory of Mildred Burns

Andrea Ciccone

In memory of Madeline Cabanski

Kathleen Murray

In memory of Bill Cain

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In memory of Donna Marie Calderisi

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Janet Royce

In memory of Roberta Knisley Christensen

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Margaret Cullen

In memory of George Cullen

Margaret Cullen

In memory of John Delisi

Joan Delisi

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In memory of Alexander de Vryer

Francine O'Connor

Eloise O'Connor Roche

In memory of Kathryn Dolan

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Suzanne Kathryn Dupré

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of deceased members of the

Ehrman family from 2002-2013

Virginia Ehrmann Koerber

In memory of Matthew Eiden

Al and Eileen Samuelson

In memory of Elizabeth Ernst

Michael and Eileen Moorman

In memory of Jack and Julie Evans

Leslie Dickerson

In memory of Ma. Priscila (Celang) Calma

Evasco

Paz Aceron and family

In memory of Patrick E. Fahey

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In memory of Nancy Dupre Fallucco

Laureen and Karl Youtsey

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In memory of Peter J. Flood

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Jeanne A. Flood John J. Flood

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Rose Ann Foster

In memory of John Fuller

Lois C. Gleason

In memory of Loretta Gehl Gallagher

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Barbara Eiden McDonough

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Martha Conlon

Karen and Rich Klicki

Mary Joy and Bernard Klos

Deidre Kosmin

Sally and Phil Meno

Elizabeth and Jack Pinter

Patricia Prusa

In memory of Grace Wrenn Gaughan

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Judith Borchers

Marguerite (Peggy) Cusick

Sheila McGuire

Don Winslow

In memory of Kathy Geroski

Jill Newberger

In memory of Sister Joyce Gleeson, OSB

Suzanne Walsh

In memory of Helen Hoyle Gola

Doris Hoyle Batt

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of John and Therese Green and

their deceased children

Joseph Green

In memory of Felice Carey Guardalabene

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Doris J. Kreutzer Haas

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Terri Ellis

In memory of Genevieve Franciska Hane

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Sister Benita Coffey, OSB and Benedictine

Oblates of Chicago

In memory of Patricia Boyle Hankins

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Prayer Ministry-June 12, 2021 - November 1, 2021

In memory of Betty Lou McChesney Haus Benedictine Sisters of Chicago In memory of Carol Sutherland Healy Benedictine Sisters of Chicago In memory of Rosalee Hedin Virginia Lock In memory of Sister Joan Hentges, OSB Mary Jo and Hal Brewer In memory of Sheila McGovern Hohm-

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Barbara Allen Nohr
In memory of Sister Gertrude Holtz, OSB
Anonymous

In memory of Chris Ingegno

Fe Fernandez

In memory of Judith Heelan Jensen

Sharon (Nemeth) and Larry Barr Benedictine Sisters of Chicago Phyllis and Jon Graham In memory of Adolph Jerdee

Margaret Heaphy

In memory of Connie Jersin

Patricia Doriot Jersin

In memory of Ronald W. Johnson

Charlotte Johnson

In memory of Juanita Jones Benedictine Sisters of Chicago In memory of John Paul Kenny, Jr.

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Sayran Kika
Patricia Heineman-Vernon

In memory of Shirley M. Kinnerk Kathryn and James Hillenbrand In memory of Margaret Klein

Sue Jans Aste

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago In memory of Anne Kneesel

Tom and Terri Ivantic
William Ivantic

In memory of Bert E. Lahman Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Diane Lahman

In memory of Ninette Joseph Laroche

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago In memory of Mary Lerps Rev. Robert Oldershaw

Angela Schrimpl

In memory of Patricia Levsai

Judith Alexander

In memory of Jack Lochner Sister Hilary Halpin, OSB

In memory of Frank M. Loranger

Kathleen Loranger

In memory of Franklin D. Loranger

Kathleen Loranger

In memory of Sister Victoria Marconi, OSB

Steven Vatch

In memory of Jeff Marsh Patricia Sobolewski Kardasz In memory of Mary Matthei

Patricia Pruitt

In memory of Kathleen McCaffrey

Mary Specht

In memory of Catherine B. McGovern

Peter J. McGovern

In memory of Mara L. Moroney McHugh

Jamee Moroney

In memory of Janet Barnes McPartlan

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In memory of Joan Marie Marsden

Morrison

Kelly and Sandeep Agarwal Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Peggy and Keith Funk

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Dianne Marsden, Rachael and Ian

Jackie Richter Kremer

Jim and Sue Marsden and Josh, Zach,

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Parsche

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In memory of Nancy Geralyn Naughton

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
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Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

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In memory of Joseph Nemanich

Vivian Nemanich

In memory of Larry Nemer, SVD

Judith Borchers

In memory of James and Helen O'Connor

Francine O'Connor

In memory of John Oldershaw

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In memory of Denise Perse Margaret Cullen

In memory of Taylor Perse

Margaret Cullen

In memory of Sue Porazinski

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In memory of Marilynn Kiefer

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In memory of Laura Marie Radabaugh

Mary Willis

In memory of Rosie Randle

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In memory of Frank and Patricia Repp

Margaret Heaphy

In memory of John and Margaret Repp

Margaret Heaphy

In memory of Richard and Helen Repp

Margaret Heaphy

In memory of deceased members of the

Richter and Hansen families

James M. Richter family

In memory of George Radacy and Sharon Rodie

Susan Ernst

In memory of Mary Christine Roman

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago In memory of Patrick Rooney

Anita Dwyer Ann C. Gaul Barbara Hartnett Susan Langlotz

Noreen Ferrari and Barbara Logue

Thomas Morley Gay Norton

"...I remember you constantly in my prayers." W. Christine Rauscher William and Audrey Rooney Darlene Solano In memory of Janet Sarsha

Bonnie Nordstrom

In memory of Sister Johnette Sawyer, OSB

Mickey Smith

In memory of Estelle "Sis" McMahon Schaefer

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago Ann McMahon Metzer In memory of Sister Mary Frances Schermerhorn, OSB

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OSB

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In memory of Kathleen Schrimpl

Angela Schrimpl

In memory of Eleanor Schmitt Sheehy

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Marjorie McDevitt

In memory of Madonna Margaret Siles

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago Candy Cosgrove Borkowicz

In memory of Donald Smith

The Dominik family

In memory of Vicki Vetrano Sopcak

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Tom Straulin Francine O'Connor

In memory of Father Tom Tivy

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Virginia Lock

In memory of Jesus Velez

Sister Kathleen Maloney, OSB

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Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

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Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Kathleen Kirschen Janessa

In memory of Raymond Wenholz

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Roland Wilson

Patricia Hartmann

In memory of Marie and Fred Zalaznik

Margaret Heaphy

In memory of William Zielinski

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Sister Suzanne Zuercher,

Joseph and Julie Zuercher

Special Occasions

In honor of Sister Benita Coffey, OSB Barbara Wahler

In honor of Sister Benita Coffey, OSB on her 90th birthday

Marjorie Auer

Phyllis A. King

Madonna McCutcheon

Mary Warner

In honor of Sister Benita Coffey, OSB on

her 70th Jubilee

Patty Minwegan Aijian

Anonymous

Judith Borchers

Lynn and Benjamin Brand

Patricia and John Coffey III

Connie Godfrey and the Colorado Oblates

Carol Hines

Helen Lyon and Lyon Sisters:

Mary Jo 1973, Nancy 1974, Carrie 1976, Ellen 1978, Donna 1979, Laurie 1983 and

Lisa 1984

Madonna Rodgers McCutcheon

Jeanne and John Schultz

Mary Warner

In honor of Sister Benita Coffey, OSB on her 90th birthday, her 70th anniversary of her profession, and her lifetime

commitment to social justice

Kathryn Donoval

Jean Hellman Ryan

In honor of Molly Ingraffia

Denise Umpierre

In honor of Sister Vivian Ivantic, OSB on

her 108th birthday

Paul Ivantic

William Ivantic

Eileen and Lawrence Klonowski

Keith and Mary Beth Self

In honor of Sister Callista Kaley, OSB

Katherine Thinnes

In honor of Tom and Lucy Keating on

their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Tom and Lucy Keating

In honor of Patricia Marseille

McMenamin

Martha Smith

In honor of Matthew and Dorothy

Miholic on their 70th Wedding

Anniversary

Gertrude Miholic

In honor of Carolyn Murphy

Anonymous

In honor of Ron and Rita Nemchausky on

their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Ron and Rita Nemchausky

In honor of Sister Susan Quaintance, OSB

in appreciation for her teaching me so much and more than she knows.

Alissa Ballot

In honor of living members of the Richter

and Hansen families
James M. Richter family

In honor of Sister Melinda Roper, MM

Gloria St. John

In honor of Sherrill Sander on her 80th

hirthday

Dominic and Margaret Caminiti

In honor of Tom and Nancy Schoenberg on their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Cathy Ingraffia

In honor of Sister Jane Smith, OSB for her great teaching at QAS

John D. Hofherr

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Tate

Patricia Martin

Blessings on Roger and Pam Testin on their anniversary

Rita Testin



Save the Date!
St. Scholastica
Academy Chicago
Reunion Weekend:
September, 17-18, 2022



Save the Date!

26th Annual Sestimonial Dinner and Awards

Wednesday, June 8, 2022 Park Ridge Country Club



If you have a loved one that you would like the Sisters to remember in prayer, please share their names with us via the envelope provided in this newsletter.

We are very grateful to the Bernard Heerey Family Foundation





Annual Stewardship Report Fiscal Year 2020-2021



Message from the Prioress



Dear Friends,

We are very grateful for your encouragement of our planning to "right size" our living situation to better fit our needs as we continue our life together as a smaller group, still committed to sharing our vowed life and our community work and prayer, in Rogers Park. Our continued presence in Chicago and Colorado, serving as we are able where there is need, allows us to continue our witness to Benedictine life and spirituality.

Our Oblates, both in Chicago and in Colorado, thrive in number and in spirit, and we thank them for also witnessing to shared Benedictine values and spirit, as they daily live in the spirit of *The Rule of Benedict*, touching many lives. We welcome too the Oblates' support of our works of peace and justice.

We are in awe of the response of our friends and acquaintances to our appeals to support our ongoing needs, such as #Giving Tuesday. Also, you who connect with us through matching gifts programs, donor advised funds, and varied alternative gifting suggestions are appreciated profoundly. We are also thankful for the foresight of people in our Legacy Society and Memorial Benefactors, alumnae and friends who have benefitted from our teaching and mentoring, and who arrange for substantial bequests to continue to support our way of life.

And we appreciate the grants we receive from generous foundations: SOAR helps fund the respectful quality of life for our sisters who receive health care in our St. Joseph Court. This year we were able to participate virtually in the SOAR Gala in Washington D.C. This lovely event took place while SOAR's Sister Peggy Scarano, OP was our guest at the Monastery. The Bernard Heerey Foundation values enabling our Sisters to age in place with their community, by support that makes possible at the motherhouse the needed special health care. A Brach Foundation grant supports on-going education and collaborative meetings with appropriate resources to help keep our processes and practices current.

You will find our Annual Report in this issue of *Sacro Speco*. We are most grateful for all the ways you support our life in Benedictine community and our works in the church and the world. We pray for you daily with thankful hearts.

Gratefully yours,

Prioress, Sister Judith Murphy, OSB

Judith Murphy oss

List of Donors, Fiscal Year July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021

The following foundations, organizations, and individual donors are listed in alphabetical order. Please see page 30-31 for a listing of those who donated to Uncle Pete's Ministries. A "+" cross indicates that the donor passed away this year. Every effort has been made to accurately acknowledge our donors' gifts for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. We apologize for any errors and encourage you to call any inaccuracies or omissions to our attention. Thank you!

Foundation Grants

Bernard Heerey Family Foundation
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Annual Report - 20



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Gail Gill Hope Gillespie

Other ways to Partner with Us in Mission

Pray for the Benedictine Community

Please keep the Sisters, Oblates, Alumnae, and friends in your prayers. Your prayer support helps sustain us!

Become a Monthly Donor

Automatic monthly donations are an easy way to support the Sisters. To learn more about making donations directly from your checking account or credit card, please contact us.

Matching Gifts

Many employers sponsor matching gift program that match, double, or even triple any charitable contributions that their employees make. Consider asking your Human Resources Department.

Donor-Advised Fund DAF

As a registered 501(c)(3) charity, the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago are legally able and truly grateful to accept your thoughtful donation through your Donor-Advised Fund.

IRA Charitable Rollover

A deeply appreciated donation and a major tax benefit all in one! If you are 70 ½ plus, you can make a transfer directly from your IRA to the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago. This gift will not only save you tax on the donation you transfer, but it also counts toward your required minimum distribution.

Appreciated Stock

Your kindness through the donation of Stock will not only help support the Sisters, but may also lower your Capital Gains Taxes.

Memorial Gifts

Families may choose to name the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago as their preferred recipient for a memorial tribute, instead of flowers. Pre-printed envelopes are available for use at the funeral home.

Memorial Card

At your request, a lovely card can be sent to the bereaved, expressing your sympathy and notifying them that a donation was made in memory of their loved one.

Celebration or In Honor of Someone Special

A thoughtful gift for the person who has everything; a donation in their honor to the Sisters. Or, you may consider stating, "In lieu of gifts, a donation to the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago may be made". An acknowledgment card on your behalf will be sent to the honoree.

Legacy Society

More than just a legal document, your will is a testament to your life's work, your values and your beliefs. The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago would be honored to be remembered as a part of your legacy.

Of course all donors, deceased loved ones, and honorees will be listed in Sacro-Speco and remembered daily in the Sisters' prayers.

Questions? Contact Joanne Spata, Director of Development, at 773-764-2413, ext. 233

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Edward and Mary Ann Glach Agnes Glavich Lois Gleason Julie R. Gleixner Carlin Glennon Connie Counts Godfrey

Annual Report - 22

Clareece Godt Katherine Goeddel

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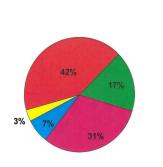
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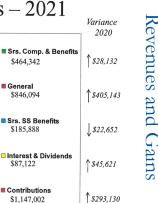
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Revenues & Gains – 2021

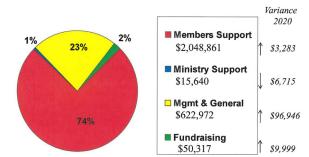


Total Revenues & Gains = \$2,748,867

(Graph does not include loss on the sale of equipment of \$7,792 or property damage insurance reimbursement of \$26,211.)



Expenses and Losses – 2021



Total Expenses = \$2,737,790



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Contact Joanne Spata at 773.764.2413 x233 to learn more.

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hank you for partnering with us in our mission to promote

Benedictine spirituality and action in our church and world.

The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago invite you to rejoice with them in prayer

70th Jubilee of Profession Sister Margaret Ann Holtz, OSB

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