



Ventures

Turning Faith into Action since 1859

Summer 2008, Volume 4, Issue 3

www.sistersoftheholynames.org/oregon/

One hundred years of fruitful cooperation priests and sisters celebrate together



Photo above: The current Jesuit team at St. Ignatius Parish, (l to r) Fathers Tom Royce, John Ridgeway, and pastor Peter Byrne confer with fifth grade teacher Sister Chris Jordan (l) and Faith Formation director Sister JoJean Cavalli. Photo below: Reminiscing over past activities planned by (l to r) Sisters Rosemary Anne Parker, Marian Watkins and Mary Kay Lampert, St. Ignatius seniors plan new places to go and things to see.



Editor's note. In the fall of 2007, the staff of Ventures met to plan the next few issues. We hoped to honor the parishes which were celebrating their centenaries, and Holy Redeemer and St. Ignatius were the chosen two. We planned to make the longtime connection between the Jesuits and the Holy Names Sisters the center of the St. Ignatius issue. We were both pleased and dismayed when the "Sentinel" (the Archdiocese of Portland's Catholic paper) beat us to the draw. Pleased, because the article was so well-written, and dismayed because we had to find a new way to plan the issue. We have borrowed a little from the "Sentinel," but we have concentrated on a different angle, concentrating on the Sisters who support and supplement the work of the Jesuits in the Southeast Portland parish.

The word "Jesuit" evokes a number of adjectives when it is mentioned: scholarly, clever, forward-looking, erudite, mission-minded, spiritual, liberal, and so forth. For the parishioners of St. Joseph in Seattle, St. Aloysius in Spokane, and St. Ignatius in Portland, the word that comes to mind is "pastoral." For more than one hundred years in each city, these men have joined with the Holy Names Sisters in the parish ministries, even sharing facilities at one time. In 1999, when the Provincial House at Marylhurst was being renovated, the Jesuits offered the Sisters the use of Loyola Retreat House, and the two communities joined together in religious and community celebrations and friendship.

This year St. Ignatius School celebrates its centenary, and the two communities continue their collaborative efforts. Three Jesuit priests, Father Peter Byrne, Father

Thomas Royce, and Father John Ridgeway and several Holy Names Sisters work closely with people of the parish. Besides the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience, these orders share a number of common goals. One of these is the education of the young.

At the beginning of the 1908 school year, three priests and two Sisters ministered to 200 families, and to 28 boys and 33 girls in the school. To assist the Sisters, the priests hired a lay woman, who unfortunately only lasted a short time, but who paved the way for today's faculty, which is almost entirely composed of lay men and women. The sole exception to that is Sister Chris Jordan, who is completing 28 years in the classroom and teaches fifth grade full time. She loves the school and its long history and has worked with at least six different pastors here. She appreciates the vitality and freshness of the students, and finds the pastor and other priests wonderfully helpful and cooperative.

Always forward looking, both the priests and the Sisters work together in new ways unthought of one hundred years ago. Much education now takes place outside the formal classroom. Sister JoJean Cavalli (Mary Jessica) now directs the faith formation program which covers a wide range of ages and backgrounds. Among her duties she takes responsibility for preparing children to receive the sacraments of the eucharist and reconciliation, and she administers the RCIA (Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults) program, which prepares adults for reception into the Church and the sacraments. She also runs the religious education program for children.

Since Vatican II, the Sisters have joined the priests in other new ministries outside the classroom, Sister Marian Watkins (Robert Marian) visits the elderly, bringing them communion, and assists them with the ordinary chores that become more difficult as one grows older: fixing a dripping faucet, changing a light bulb, shopping for groceries, advocating for those in need. She drives people to appointments; she listens to and converses with shut-ins. Most of all, she is a tireless friend who mirrors God's care for His people.

Others supporting the people are Sister Mary Kay Lampert (Mary Sharon) and Sister Rosemary Anne Parker, former high school teachers, who entertain and delight with planned activities for the parishioners, including trips

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Part of her work as Peace and Justice coordinator at St. Ignatius finds Sister Janet Ryan delivering surplus foods to those in need.

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to the coast, to museums and churches, to casinos, to the tulip fields. They plan parties and celebrations, organize meals and games, collect prizes, and offer opportunities for prayer and retreat.

Sister Jean Gent (M. Constance Jean) recently joined the three Sisters who live in the parish convent. There she tends the yard and the garden, cooks and cleans. A former director of an adult foster care facility, she volunteers in the parish office, helping with such tasks as folding the weekly bulletin and spreading good humor.

Another office volunteer is Sister Terese Tsang. Reflecting the cultural diversity of the parish now (there are four different countries from Africa alone represented at St. Ignatius), Sister Terese came to the Holy Names Sisters from a small community in Hong Kong, which she left when the British were no longer in power. She also assists in the office and can serve as a translator when the need arises.

The fourth member of the convent household, Sister Ann Paradis (M. Jean Michelle) retired several years ago after teaching at St. Ignatius for 21 years, but she continues working in the parish. Besides bringing communion to shut-ins, she also supports a prayer group who take the cares of the parishioners and brings them to God.

She loves the continued contact with parents and students she knew from the school.

Both the Jesuits and the Holy Names Sisters have a long history of concern for social justice. Sister Janet Ryan (M. Christopher James) leads the parish peace and justice

committee as it seeks to fulfill this part of the parish mission. The group reaches out to the larger community in several ways. One of these is through participation and support of MACG (Metropolitan Alliance for the Common Good), a civic group of concerned citizens with members from local churches, temples, labor unions, and mental health clinics, working on community problems such as affordable



These four Sisters enjoy community life living together at St. Ignatius convent. Clockwise from upper left: Sister Terese Tsang admires the porcelain painting of Sister Jean Gent; Sister Ann Paradis, Sister Terese, and Sister Marian Watkins.

housing, better health care, and sustainable resources. The needs of newcomers to the parish, especially those of immigrants, are handled by the group, and such tasks as tutoring the newly arrived children become a central concern.

Reaching out internationally for social concerns has led the Northwest Jesuits to form an alliance with fellow Jesuit missionaries in Colombia. A team of priests lay men and women, and two Holy Names Sisters, JoJean Cavalli and Jane Hibbard, traveled to that country. They visited homes, met with the people and discovered what they had in common, particularly their faith. An awareness of mutual concerns about social justice brings the countries together in a special way.

Always importantly, the two religious communities have shared a common spirituality. For many years, the Sisters' retreats were directed by Jesuits. Now the Sisters have come to share this mission at St. Ignatius. Every year the Jesuits have directed a novena in honor of St. Francis Xavier. Children who went to Jesuit schools can still sing "O Father, St. Francis," and remember fondly going to the services. Now, the days of the retreat are preached by Sisters Janet, JoJean and Jane, priests and lay women and men. The emphasis on collaboration with lay people is another of the strong bonds between the two religious groups.

In 2008, St. Ignatius Parish is large and well-cared for, the school thrives, the charisms of both religious communities continue to live. Generations of parishioners and students will celebrate with the priests and Sisters this fall to honor that history.

This article and the articles found on pages 2 and 3 were written by Sister Jane Ellen Burns.

The Stupfel Story: 125 Years of Service



Photo above: Living together now at Mary's Woods, Sister Kathleen (l) and Sister Theresa enjoy the gardens and the serene atmosphere of their surroundings. Photo right: Sister Theresa (l) as a novice and Sister Kathleen as a professed Sister.

Nobody ever said the Stupfel sisters were very much alike, not even as children. Theresa stayed with her father on their family farm near McMinnville, working beside her brothers, milking cows, and helping with the crops; Kathleen stayed with her mother in the house, cooking and sewing and doing the household chores.

Kathleen, the oldest of the eight Stupfel children, went to St. James Catholic Elementary School and graduated from Amity High School as valedictorian of her class, and consequently won a scholarship to Marylhurst College. There she came to know the Holy Names Sisters, and entered their novitiate a year later, becoming Sister Theresa Maureen, and later Sister Kathleen.

Four brothers came between the two sisters, and when Theresa left St. James, she went to St. Mary's Academy as a boarder. She followed Kathleen into the Holy Names community after her graduation and became first known as Sister Mariella Rose and currently as Sister Theresa.



first morning she was asked to prepare breakfast for the 60 sisters who lived in that big house, and she regretted those hours with the pitchforks instead of the kitchen ones. Later she became a cook, excelling in that as she did in so many other ways around the house. She taught briefly, then became the director of the intermediate boarders. She moved through the range of all the possible boarding (later called resident) school activities: in charge of the infirmary, of maintenance, and eventually of the bookstore as well.

After the Oregon province divided in 1962, Sister Theresa worked in the new Provincial-

ate in Spokane as a secretary, and among her new duties was teaching Mother Kathleen Clare Gorman to drive. Back at Holy Names Academy in Seattle, she returned to office work, which led to a job at a water purifying company, taking charge of the payroll account.

After five years, Sister Theresa retired the way Holy Names Sisters do, i.e., you take another job, only this time you do it for no pay. At the Immaculate Conception School in Everett she computerized the library for the principal there, who happened to be her housemate, Sister Dixie Crosby (M. Catherine Joan), with whom she lived for 28 years.

Meanwhile, Sister Kathleen's interest in social justice and the environment, led her to new works. At St. Andrew's inner city school in Portland, she became the principal, interacting with the students in new ways: visiting homes in the neighborhood, working with the preschool children and their parents or guardians. After the school closed, she took on the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) program, served as associate pastor for five years, and in the absence of a full-time pastor served as parish administrator. She has been honored by many groups for her innovative work there. Later she volunteered at the Care Center at Marylhurst leading activities and prayer groups.

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Sister Theresa's center of activity became the house where she lived with Sister Dixie, keeping up a large yard, cooking and house-keeping, and caring for Sister Dixie in her last illness. Now at Mary's Woods, although mostly retired, she drives and ministers to the Sisters.

Sister Kathleen still volunteers in the skilled care unit of Mary's Woods two days a week, and one day at the McDonald Center in Portland, (a residence for abused women and their children). The two sisters live together, and although one is the ultimate introvert, and the other not, they share a love of family, community, and above all, God, which makes this time together special for them.

Jubilarians: Lives with purpose

Sister Caryl Bastasch

Sister Caryl Bastasch (M. Carolyn Frances) graduated from All Saints Grade School and St. Mary's Academy before she entered the Holy Names novitiate in 1956. She remembers that the rules were strict, but her call seemed clear. The Sisters in charge were beautiful models and the "Set," those who entered at the same time, became friends easily and supported each other.

A creative and enthusiastic teacher, Sister Caryl taught grades one through six in The Dalles, Portland and Salem, along the way earning an M.S. at Portland State University. Later she served as Pastoral Associate in Lincoln County, and at Resurrection parish in Tualatin. She now assists at Mary's Woods sharing the wonder and beauty of faith with the people she encounters there.

Sister Dorothy Dees

Sister Dorothy Dees (Mary Kristen) came to the Holy Names community in Oregon from California where she graduated from high school and junior college. She worked as a journalist for local newspapers, including a stint as an editor, but felt called to religious life. Her great-aunt, Sister Mary Norberta, was an enthusiastic member of the Holy Names community, and through her, Dorothy came to know the Sisters and entered the novitiate in 1956. She earned a B.A. from Marylhurst in English, and an M.A. in American Literature from Holy Names College.

Most teachers find themselves moving from school to school, but Sister Dorothy's tenure was long—she taught in only two schools: St. Mary's Academy in Portland and Holy Names Academy in Seattle. Because of her journalistic background, she served as advisor of school newspapers and yearbooks for a total of 32 years. She also taught religion, English and photography and managed an English Resource Center. In addition to all this, she often used her secretarial skills to help in the office, it is no wonder that the school administration awarded her a trip to Europe for her outstanding service. After she left teaching she became the registrar at Holy Names, a position she still holds today.

Sister Kathleen Kircher

Sister Kathleen Kircher (M. Stephen Mark) entered the Holy Names community after graduating from St. Mary's Academy. Like most Sisters she attended Marylhurst College, receiving a degree in chemistry. Unlike most others, who frequently moved from mission to mission, she spent her 20 years in teaching in just three locations, Holy Names Academy in Spokane, Sacred Heart Academy in Salem, and St. Mary's Academy in Portland. During this time, she received a master's degree in chemistry from Marquette University.

In a change of direction, she found herself at Mt. St. Joseph, where she worked as a nurse's aide. Her love for her work there led her to take a chaplain's course, at Providence Hospital, where in customary fashion she stayed for 20 years ending them as director of chaplains' services.

After retirement she was selected as a member of the last Oregon provincial team, and she still serves the community assistant director of the Oregon Sisters.

Sister Janina Kokorowski

Sister Janina Kokorowski first met the Holy Names Sisters at St. Mary's Elementary School in Seattle three days after she arrived in the United States from Germany. Although Janina was born in Poland, World War II uprooted the family's life on a subsistence farm in Poland,

and they were transported to Germany where her parents worked as slave laborers. After the war, the family moved from one refugee camp to another, and "finally we were lucky enough to immigrate to Seattle and settle in a parish which had a school staffed by the Holy Names Sisters.

Her teaching career began in the first grade at St. Mary's School in Eugene. For 16 years she taught and served as principal in the Portland Archdiocese. She then received a master's degree in theology from the Franciscan School in Berkeley and served as director of religious education in several parishes in Oregon, and 12 years in St. Michael's parish in Olympia, Washington. Currently she is the director of Religious Education at Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Lake Oswego.



2008 Northwest 50-year Jubilarians: Front Row: (From left) Sisters Marilyn Nunemaker, Janina Kokorowski, Beverly Miller. Back row: Sisters Donna Van Laeken, Brigid Baumann, Kathleen Kircher, Caryl Bastasch, Dorothy Dees, Rosemary Peresich, Georgia Yianakulis. Not pictured: Nancy Anderson.

Sister Marilyn Nunemaker

As a child Sister Marilyn Nunemaker (Jacinta Maria) gathered her playmates together and played school—she was always the teacher. Later, after entering the novitiate from St. Mary's Academy her childhood dreams came true. For 25 years, she taught elementary school in the Portland Archdiocese, often mentoring new teachers and serving on committees for curriculum development.

Later she entered the field of adult education, working at Portland Community College in their Basic Skills program, where she became co-chair. Many of her students were immigrants from all corners of the world, which prompted her to acquire TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) certification and to study Spanish. She continues to work with adult education ESOL groups and citizenship classes.

In addition to her work, her creative activities such as gardening and landscaping, crafts and painting, Sister Marilyn has served as the coordinator of the Northeast Portland Mission Centre, one of the biggest in the US-Ontario Province.

Sister Beverly Miller

As a child Sister Beverly Miller (M. Carol Jean) moved with her family to various locations around the West, including three years in Central Oregon. During this time, she attended boarding school at St. Mary's Academy in The Dalles, and became acquainted with the Catholic faith and the Holy Names Sisters, and although she moved back to Los Angeles to finish high school, her heart was set on a return to Oregon. After she obtained her nurse's degree and worked at the Veteran's Hospital in Los Angeles, she returned to Oregon and worked at St. Vincent's Hospital until entering the novitiate.

Her assignments as a nurse took her to Christie School, the Care Center at the Provincial House, and the opportunity to care for severely handicapped children at the Kerr Center, located then at Marylhurst. In the midst of this busy

schedule, she was appointed Provincial Superior of Oregon for six years. After this, she returned to work with handicapped children in a pilot project that changed the focus of care for such young children from a lifetime of institutional custodial care to one of family-style small group living. After retiring from nursing she worked at St. Vincent Hospital in medical transcriptions and assisted in the care of her mother.

Sister Brigid Baumann

The path that led Sister Brigid Baumann (M. Brigid Louise) to her present-day mission in Peru was not a straight one. But every curve and turn brought invaluable experiences along the way. As early as the second grade she began playing the piano, and later added other instruments, including organ and guitar. Her graduation from St. Francis

Elementary School where the Holy Names Sisters taught her, brought her to St. Mary's Academy and further acquaintance with the Sisters, and a desire to become one of them.

After teaching primary grades, Sister Brigid went to Rosary College, near Chicago, for a master's degree in library science, and later to Portland State University for another master's in post-secondary and adult continuing education.

During a 30-day retreat, she saw a film, *Roses in December*, an account of the work, rape and death of four women in El Salvador. Moved by the situation of these women, she turned her attention to the countries south of the United States. After experiences in Nicaragua and Bolivia, she found herself at the Holy Names mission in Arequipa,

Peru. There she fell in love with the country and the people. In 1988 she joined two other Sisters in a house on the outskirts of Lima, where she teaches guitar, runs two libraries: one for children and another for adults, and teaches girls and women, training them to obtain job skills.

Sister Brigid sees the community she lives with as selfless and compassionate workers, genuinely concerned with women and their issues. "If I had to put it expressly in words, I'd say that our charism is to pay attention to and promote leadership among women. Mother Marie-Rose understood this; we think she'd be pleased."

Sister Donna Van Laeken

The tallest and the youngest of the Jubilarians is Sister Donna Van Laeken (Mary Sebastian), another of the class of 1956 at St. Mary's Academy. Like many of her peers, she attended Catholic grade school (Holy Redeemer), picked berries in the summer to pay for books and tuition at St. Mary's, and enjoyed her friends and sports and even classes on the way.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in education, she taught every grade from the first to seniors in high school. She also taught in Washington and Oregon and for five years on the island of Kauai in Hawaii.

However, after Vatican II, she took on new challenges. In Texas and Arizona she assisted men and women in their spiritual journeys as a staff member in houses of prayer in those states.

Demographic studies of our countries aging population led her to a master's degree in gerontology, and she now offers the elderly compassionate care and comfort in various settings from private homes to retirement and assessed living facilities.

Northwest Jubilarians

The Oregon jubilarians are joined by three Sisters from Washington celebrating their 50-year milestone: Sisters Nancy Anderson, Rosemary Peresich, and Georgia Yianakulis.

Save the Dates



SNJM 150: Celebrate with us!

April 26, 2009
Inaugural Concert
featuring choral ensembles from
the Holy Names High Schools
and Marylhurst University
Schnitzer Concert Hall
SW Broadway at Main, Portland

October 25, 2009
Eucharistic Liturgy and Reception
Oregon Convention Center
777 NE MLK, Jr. Blvd., Portland

Ventures: A Publication of the Sisters of the Holy Names

Ventures is a publication of the Sisters of the Holy Names (SNJM), printed tri-annually for the use of the Sisters, their partners in ministry and their various publics. It aims to support the vitality of the SNJM mission, education in the faith in all its forms, into the future.

Office of Development: 503.675.7113
www.sistersoftheholynames.org/oregon

Provincial Director: Joan Saalfeld, SNJM
Editor: Lynda Thompson, SNJM
Development Director: Adrianna Carr
Layout: Carole Strawn, SNJM
Contributors: Jane Ellen Burns, SNJM;
Carole Strawn, SNJM; Lynda Thompson, SNJM

Sisters of the Holy Names
P.O. Box 411
Marylhurst, OR 97036-0411

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Portland, OR
Permit No. 700



Ventures

Turning Faith into Action since 1859

A publication of the Sisters of the Holy Names

In this issue: KINDRED SPIRITS... COMPANIONS FOR THE JOURNEY...

SUMMER 2008

Celebrate Holy Names and Jesuit partnerships... Daughters of Eulalie, Sons of Ignatius lay a Northwest foundation for Catholic education.

Meet Theresa and Kathleen... Sister-sisters who have made the Stupfel name well-known and loved in SNJM and Church communities

Honor our NW Jubilarians... 11 women, 50 adventurous years... trailblazing side by side new paths of education in the faith.

In this VENTURES, we witness how the Spirit swirls through our lives... inspiring us to work together... creating a whirlwind of creative energy to reveal God's loving care for each new generation.

2008 NORTHWEST JUBILARIANS

Celebrating 75 years of religious profession

Sister Agnes Marie Krieg [WA]
Sister Dolores Ann McDonald [WA]

Celebrating 70 years

Sister Rose Theresa Costello [WA]
Sister Lillian Gagner [WA]
Sister Marilyn Harris [OR]
Sister Eileen Rose Kelly [WA]
Sister Peter Mary McInnis [OR]
Sister Mary Joanne Sullivan [OR]

Celebrating 60 years

Sister Veronica Ann Baxter [OR]
Sister Jane Ellen Burns [OR]
Sister Shirley Carlson (Mary Martinian) [OR]
Sister Stephana Heitkemper [OR]
Sister Martine Mary Kenney [OR]
Sister Mary Noreen O'Leary [OR]
(Noreen Elizabeth)
Sister Marcia Schrapps [WA]

Sesquicentennial: SNJM 150

The Sesquicentennial of the Sisters of the Holy Names in the Pacific Northwest and St. Mary's Academy, Portland, fast approaches. We celebrate the lives and ministry of SNJMs in Oregon and Washington and the mission of education of St. Mary's Academy for 150 years. In the next issues of *Ventures*, our "A glimpse of the past..." section will dip into the wealth of the *Chronicles* to recall events of 150 years ago.

A glimpse of the past... From St. Mary's Chronicles

August 13, 1859. Twelve Sisters (are) chosen by the General Council. The appointments being made, Bishop Bourget (of Montreal, Quebec) gave an instruction on the grandeur and importance of the mission to which Holy Obedience called them. In return for so heroic a sacrifice, he assured us that Our Divine Lord would shower upon them untold graces. They were granted permission to visit the sick in their homes and to undertake such works of charity as the Ordinary of the Diocese (of Portland) would require of them.

August 15, 1859. The 16th of September is assigned for our departure. The interval is spent in active preparation. We are almost hourly called to the parlor by friends of the Community who have been informed of our Western foundation.

September 16, 1859. At three o'clock, the immediate preparation for departure begins. ... At five o'clock we turn once more to utter a pressing adieu to loved Sisters who follow our cortege with tearful faces. ... At this moment how inexorable is that future that hitherto seemed so bright with promise. ... Night had fallen before we arrived at Troy (NY). At this place we were transferred to the steamer, which conveyed us to New York City.

September 17, 1859. On arriving at New York, ... carriages ... conveyed us to various convents whose charitable religious had kindly proffered hospitality to our party.

September 20, 1859. (We are) conveyed to the ocean steamship, "Star of the West," in which we are to brave the billows of the Atlantic. At 2:30pm, we are aboard awaiting the signal for departure.