



Season of Change

On July 12, the birthday of St. Julie Billiart, the current Leadership Team of the U.S. East-West Province will officially pass the baton to a new team of Sisters who have recently been elected to a 5-year term. The Sponsorship Office staff offers our heartfelt thanks to the extraordinary Leadership Team we have had the privilege of working with over these past several years. Sisters Mary Farren, Eileen Burns, Patty Chappell, Elaine Bain and Barbara Barry (shown below) have provided strong and steady guidance to our office as we grew in size and scope, sharing their expertise and experience, while giving us the space to experiment with new ideas, launch initiatives, and to respond to the needs of our sponsored ministries. Not everyone sees the tireless and at times courageous efforts that this team makes to keep the Province and sponsored ministries running smoothly. In addition to their administrative skills, they take the time to serve as national spokespersons on issues of racial and social justice, environmental sustainability, and the mission of Catholic health care and education. We wish them the very best as they take a well-deserved break and transition to new roles and ministries. We will miss their direct support but know that their friendship will remain a constant. Thank you for your trust, confidence, and laughs!



We are very excited to welcome the new Leadership Team: Sisters Maria Delaney, Kathryn Keenan, Patricia O'Brien, Roberta Rzeznik, and Virginia (Ginny) Scally. We look forward to collaborating and learning with them given the substantial wisdom and experience of this new team. Sister Pat O'Brien has graciously agreed to present the keynote address at our SNDdeN School Leaders Conference in Cincinnati, OH, November 11-13, 2024. We hope to see many of you there.

We also take this opportunity to bid a fond farewell to Karen Laganelli, CEO of Notre Dame Health Care Center (NDHCC) in Worcester, MA who retired at the end of May. Karen Laganelli personifies the ideal SNDdeN leader. Since 2015, Karen has brought keen intelligence, adaptability, and strategic vision to her work with the staff

and board to set NDHCC on solid footing for the future, always leading with warmth, integrity, and compassion. Karen navigated Notre Dame Health Care through the Covid years and served as a guide and resource to all the health care centers in our SNDdeN network during those challenging times. We are greatly indebted to Karen for her years of service, and for modeling for so many the best of Notre Dame leadership. Karen, we wish you many blessings on your well-deserved retirement!



Notre Dame Health Care Center welcomes Philip Hickey to the role of President and CEO. Welcome Philip! We look forward to working with you.

As we transition to the summer months, we say ***thank you*** ... for all that each of you has done for our sponsored ministries this year. We hope you enjoy time for rest and recreation during the upcoming weeks and, continued blessings on the good work you all are doing.

Peace,
Katie, Julie, Kim, Sister Louise and Amy

Mission Moments

Gracious God,

Creation overflows with your goodness.
Where I see only scarcity, you tell me to look closer,
hinting at a hidden abundance.
Teach me to look at the world through your eyes.
Help me to be aware of all the ways you care for my
learning community, beyond my view, beyond my
comprehension.
Make evident the giftedness with which you have
showered your people.
Help me to recognize in myself and in those with whom I serve the multiplicity of
talents and possibilities if I but trust.

Amen

- Ann Garrido, from *Redeeming Administration: 12 Spiritual Habits for Catholic Leaders*



Ann was the keynote speaker at the SNDdeN School Leaders Conference in 2023. Her latest book is *Redeeming Power: Exercising the Gift as God Intended*, a wonderful exploration of the spirituality of leadership ideal for summer reading!

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Preparing to Celebrate 175th Anniversary in New England

Being part of a sponsored ministry it is clear the love and dedication the Sisters had for their work and ministry.

Originally called to educate girls, we know the impact of that call across the country and globe. This October, we are excited to be celebrating the 175th anniversary of the SNDdeN in New

England. A series of articles have been published chronicling the Sisters story in the region and we encourage you to read these publications to provide a fuller understanding of the history in the region. The Pilot articles are [linked here](#).

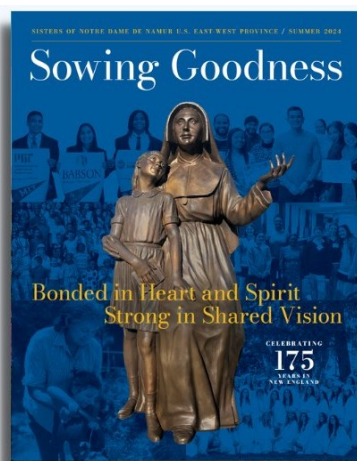
An enduring legacy of goodness in New England, 1849 - 2024



We welcome you to join us in celebrating the 175th on October 16, 2024 at the Boston Marriott Burlington. There are various ways to do so whether through sponsorship of the event, attending the celebration, and more. To purchase tickets or become a sponsor please [visit our website](#) or reach out to Jennifer Pearce, Director of Development for the East-West Province for more information. (jpearce@ewsndden.org).

Excerpt from first article published back in October 2023 in The Pilot...

*St. Julie Billiart and Francoise Blin de Bourdon founded their congregation in 1804. Their mission was "to proclaim the goodness of God" and to teach poor girls "what is essential for life." The two foundresses were courageous women who endured misunderstanding and eviction from Amiens, France, in the first five years. After settling in Namur, Belgium, where they already had a school (and still do), the sisters began to accept missionary requests from other countries. They were concerned with the United States' request and said, "How could a country so young possibly be civilized." Fearlessly, the sisters arrived in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1840. While there, they received an invitation from Bishop John Fitzpatrick, extended by Father John McElroy, SJ, the pastor of St. Mary Parish and founder of Boston College, to come to Boston to educate the tremendous influx of European immigrants. The first three sisters arrived on Nov. 12, 1849, and settled into the North End. **Continue reading***



Watch for the next summer issue of **Sowing Goodness** coming out soon by our Communications Team! This issue celebrates our 175th Anniversary in New England!! Make sure you are **on their mailing list** to receive the issue!!

Happenings Across the Province

Be sure to check out the SNDdeN social media accounts - **Instagram** & **Facebook** - to see what wonderful things are going on within our sponsored ministries! Links also at

Notre Dame Cristo Rey - Corporate Work Study Proclamation Recognition & 20th Anniversary Gala & Auction Photos

Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School (NDCR) is proud to have authored two Governor proclamations in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. These states officially proclaimed April 8-12, 2024 as "Work Study Week" in recognition of the school's commitment to providing students with valuable work experience through its Corporate Work Study Program.

The proclamations signed by Governor Healey of Massachusetts and Governor Sununu of New Hampshire highlight the importance of work study programs in preparing students for future success and commends NDCR high school for its dedication to academic excellence and career readiness.

Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School celebrated their 20th anniversary at the annual gala on May 4, recognizing the outstanding students, faculty, donors, and leaders who have made NDCR one of the highest performing schools in the national Cristo Rey network. A highlight of the event was alumna Shelby Morales '21 presenting a donation of \$53,000 to establish the Sr. Mary Murphy, SNDdeN Alumni Emergency Fund providing financial support for alums "*to and through college.*" Congratulations NDCR!



Below, Sister Mary Johnson is joined by NDCR students on stage and Sister Maryalyce Gilfeather addresses the audience.



Notre Dame San Jose Competes in *Food Fight* for Hunger Initiative

Notre Dame High School in San Jose, CA (NDSJ) partnered with Martha's Kitchen San Jose by participating in their 2nd Annual Food Fight competition from March 25 to April 30, 2024. Along with six other schools in the area, they addressed food insecurity in their community, as no one should go hungry.

This event **raised \$30,624**, gathered just **over 5,500** pounds of food, and **saw 990 volunteer hours!!** NDSJ earned 2,501 points for contributions, food donations, and volunteer hours, placing fifth among the seven participating schools, despite being the smallest. Well done Notre Dame San Jose!



Notre Dame Education Center Inducted into Honor Society for Service

At a ceremony held on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 on the Merrimack College campus, Notre Dame Education Center (NDEC) was officially inducted into the **Father John McKniff, OSA Honor Society for Service**. NEDC Lawrence was selected for induction into this Honor Society this year in recognition of all they have done to support the efforts of Merrimack College's students to engage in the work of helping and learning from the students and staff at NDEC.

“Each semester NDEC feels privileged to work with Austin Scholars student volunteers from Merrimack's Stevens Service Learning Center.

We are grateful for Sister Catherine O'Brien, SNDdeN and Volunteer Coordinator Betty Kamali who ensure a positive learning experience for our volunteers.”



Alisa Povenmire, Executive Director
Notre Dame Education Center



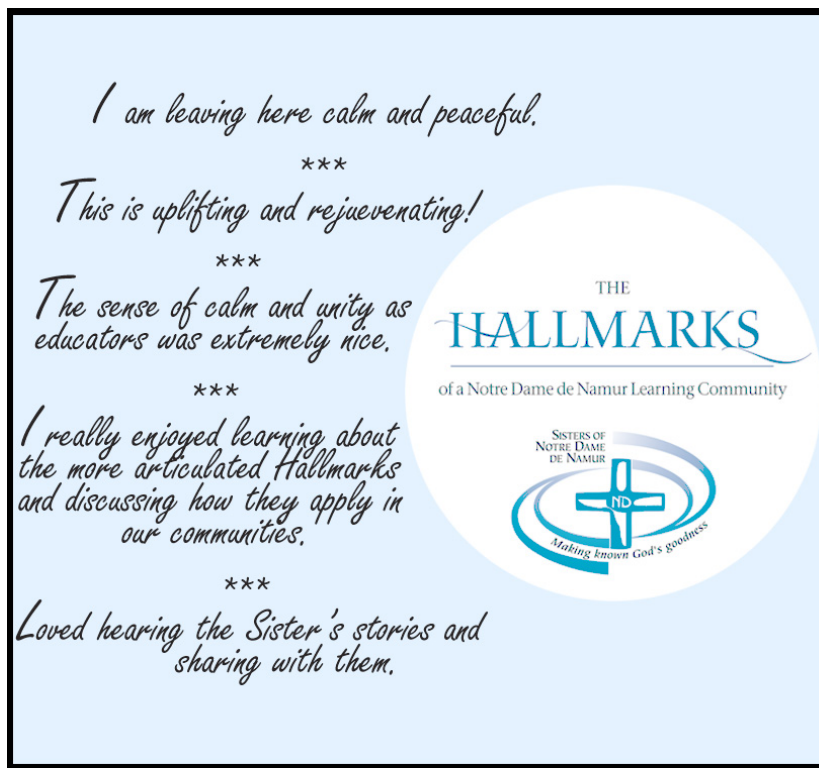
NDEC's Alisa Povenmire, Sister Catherine and Betty Kamali with student volunteers from Merrimack College.

East Coast Hallmarks Retreat: Educators Reflect, Learn & Connect

This year's east coast Hallmarks Retreat brought together a group of 12 educators from SNDdeN schools to spend two days together reflecting, learning and having group discussions about the 7 Hallmarks. They also had time to plan strategically with fellow teachers/colleagues, gather with Sisters, rest, and socialize.

This retreat is offered yearly for new faculty/staff or existing employees who have never had the opportunity to learn more about the 7 Hallmarks of a Notre Dame de Namur Learning Community. See your administrator, campus minister or mission leader for more information and to register for the 2025 retreat.

Below is some of the feedback we received from the retreat participants on their experience at the Spirituality Center in Ipswich, MA along with pictures of the group.



Healing the Healers Retreat

The annual Healing the Healers Retreat held in May hosted about 35 of Notre Dame de Namur's health care employees for a day, and optional overnight, of prayer, reflection, rest and socializing. With the theme "*Come Away & Rest Awhile*," Sister Roberta Rzeznik, SNDdeN led the group in peaceful reflection followed by a luncheon and then optional workshops like yoga, art, a nature walk at Cuvilly Arts & Earth Center or just relaxing.

We encourage all health care employees to participate in this retreat designed to support the role you play in the Notre Dame de Namur network. We proudly share some of the feedback from those who attended the retreat along with some photos of the group.

Just what I needed!

This was uplifting and rejuvenating!

*Centering, enlightening and
lifted a weight off my
shoulders.*

*I continue to be amazed by
these extraordinary Sisters
with such vision and kindness.*

*This program is excellent! I loved
meeting people from other Notre Dame
locations.*

Healing the
Healers Retreat



Our Sponsorship Team is Growing!

Join our team! We are currently hiring a full-time Director of Mission Integration for the U.S. East-West Province. This key leadership role, based in Belmont, CA, involves articulating and perpetuating the mission, vision, and values of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur within our sponsored educational and health care ministries. Must be open to working across varying time zones (EST, PST) and be comfortable with video conferencing.

[View Job Posting and Apply Here!](#)

Calendar | Upcoming Events & Meetings

Please reference and bookmark our **[Calendar of Events page](#)** on the EW SNDdeN website to access more information about our events, access registration links when they go live and additional event listings.

September
4
2024

East Coast Board Orientation

[Four Points Sheraton](#) | 2:30 - 5:30 pm

Program & Appetizers. Watch for full invitation and registration in the coming weeks.

October
7-10
2024

West Coast Board Orientations

Individual Ministry Programs | Time TBD

The West Coast orientations will be held at our CA school locations over the course of three days. Schedule and more information will be sent this summer.

Oct. - April
1st Mon.
2024-2025

Partnering in Mission

New Faculty/Staff Mission Orientation

Zoom Sessions | 3:45 & 6:15 pm ET / 12:45 & 3:15 pm PT

An orientation program welcoming new teachers and staff into the network of Notre Dame de Namur sponsored ministries and schools. Participants receive a certificate at completion of the program. **[Download this flyer](#)** for more information and watch for registration to open on **[our events page](#)**.

November
11-13
2024

SNDdeN School Leaders Conference

Educate, Empower, Transform

The Westin Cincinnati | Nov. 11, 12 pm to Nov. 13, 3 pm

All school administrators and leadership teams are encouraged to attend! Agenda and registration coming soon! **[Book your rooms now!](#)**

January
23
2025

West Coast SNDdeN Educators Symposium

Taube Center at NDNU | 5 to 7 pm

Save the date for this dynamic program co-sponsored with Notre Dame de Namur University for a second year. This program is offered to faculty and staff from all Notre Dame de Namur learning communities.

March
14
2025

East Coast SNDdeN Educators Symposium

Location & time to be finalized

Save the date for this dynamic program being offered to faculty and staff from all Notre Dame de Namur learning communities.

April
10-11
2025

East Coast Hallmarks Retreat

Spirituality Center, Ipswich, MA | *Save the date*

Faculty and staff of Notre Dame de Namur schools during the first several years of their tenure are encouraged to attend this retreat to deepen their understanding of the 7 Hallmarks & connect with colleagues across the network.

June
6-7
2025

East Coast Healing the Healers Retreat

Spirituality Center, Ipswich, MA | *Save the date*

Any staff members from the Notre Dame de Namur health care facilities are encouraged to attend this day-long retreat for rest, reflection, and socializing with fellow staff from Notre Dame de Namur health care facilities throughout New England.

Opportunities to learn more about the spirituality of the Sisters, and optional meditative walks, gardening, yoga, and art. Option to spend the night at the retreat center for those who would like.

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