

Goodness in Action

A monthly newsletter from
the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
U.S. East-West Province



June 2025 Updates



(Back row L-R) Sisters Kathleen Therese Cassidy, Patricia Ann Kelly, Joanne Sullivan, Susan Thornell, Maureen Marr, Dianne Shaw, Janet Deatt, Eileen Burns, Mary Coffey, Marcia Billings, Geraldine Burns, Mary Farren, Alice McCourt, Mary Fitzpatrick, SNDdeN

(Front row L-R) Sisters Margaret Middleton, Julie Comperchio, Elizabeth McLaughlin, Rosemary Grant, Mary O'Malley, Barbara Beauchamp, Kathleen Haughey, Karen Coakley, Barbara Collins, SNDdeN

"Pilgrims of Hope"- Celebrating our Jubilarians at Emmanuel College

On Sunday, June 29, 35 Jubilarians from the Boston area were celebrated with Mass and a luncheon at Emmanuel College. These remarkable "Pilgrims of Hope" spanned ministries from 25 to 75 years as Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. Their lives are a testament to their commitment to the mission of St. Julie.

The occasion was also an opportunity to mark the anniversaries of Sisters who were unable to celebrate publicly during 2020 due to the pandemic.

Many thanks to all who helped organize the event.



Sisters Speak Out across the U.S.

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur across the U.S. joined Catholic Sisters and faith-based organizations in Sisters Speak Out, a coordinated day of action addressing injustices affecting immigrant communities, human rights and global peace efforts. Our Sisters used their voices to advocate against impending budget cuts that jeopardize essential programs serving the most vulnerable in our communities.





In Boston, Sisters Leonore Coan, Margaret Lanen, Monica Madden, and Ginny Scally, SNDdeN along with Sabrina Harper, Katie-Sue Scullin and Kathryn Yanik, Director of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) — met with Elizabeth Rosario, Deputy State Director for Senator Elizabeth Warren (MA), to present the Sisters priorities on protecting immigrants, promoting social services and advocating for peace in the Middle East.



The summer issue of Sowing Goodness Magazine is here!

The 2025 Summer Sowing Goodness magazine will soon arrive in mailboxes. This issue highlights our relationships with God, one another and all of creation—celebrating 10 years of Laudato Si' and marking 20 years since the martyrdom of Sister Dorothy Stang, SNDdeN. It also includes updates from our schools, Sisters and much more.

[Sign up for our mailing list to make sure you receive a copy!](#)



Highlights from across the Province

Sister Patty Chappell, SNDdeN Awarded by Alma Mater

Congratulations to Patricia J. Chappell, SNDdeN who was honored at the Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony at Saint Joseph University in West Hartford, Connecticut. A graduate of the class of 1975, when it was known as Saint Joseph College, Sister Patty was awarded the Sister Mary Rosa McDonough Award. The award recognizes her

ministry as a licensed social worker, her leadership with the National Black Sisters' Conference, her



With the National Black Sisters' Conference, her ministry as a member of the former Connecticut Province Leadership Team of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, her service as a Leadership Team Member of the U.S. East-West Province of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, and her service on various boards which exemplify the principles of mercy, justice, and service lived by the Sisters of Mercy and the core of the University of Saint Joseph's mission.



Sister Patty Chappell, SNDdeN, presenting at Catholic Social Ministry Gathering event.



Boston Declares Sister Joyce McMullen, SNDdeN Day!

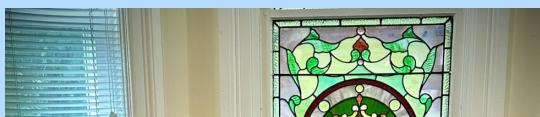
For over 50 years, Sister Joyce McMullen, SNDdeN, has served those in need in Dorchester, Massachusetts, through her organization, Project Care and Concern. For decades, she has run a thrift store, serving the community and raising proceeds with which she gets into her van every Wednesday to pick up food to distribute.

In recognition of her impact, the City of Boston declared a "Sister Joyce McMullen Day," and Sister

Joyce has received a Congressional recognition from U.S. Representative Stephen Lynch! Read a feature about Sister Joyce from the Dorchester reporter [here](#).

Sister Ann Marie McAndrews, SNDdeN Honored for Service

On June 4, the community of St. George Parish in Framingham, Massachusetts, joined by Bishop Robert Reed, celebrated Sister Ann Marie McAndrews, SNDdeN, and her impact. For the past 29 years, Sister Ann, who is 98 years of age, has served the community as a pastoral associate. She has also been active in prison ministry for over two decades.





*Sister Ann Marie McAndrews, SNDdeN and
Bishop Robert Reed*

Celebrating our Associate Jubilees



Ipswich Celebration

At a ceremony at our chapel in Ipswich, Massachusetts, on June 8, we celebrated several of our 2025 Associate Jubilarians and welcomed three new Associates! Associates Lynne Clarkin, Theresa Swain, Connie Leone, Mary Chelli, Caryl Muller, Victoria Virgo Christi, Sandra Mullarkey, and Mickey Hart were honored for their Jubilees. Michele Dimambro, Sherri Dottin and Joanne Bessom took their vows, becoming Associates of our community!



Belmont Celebration

On June 7, Sisters, Associates, friends and family gathered to celebrate the Associate commitment ceremony for Gloria Lazaga and Joyce Lasich. Each had family members present for the ceremony and luncheon. Other Associates and Sisters also renewed their commitments. Sister Liz Tiernan, SNDdeN, served as guest speaker, reflecting on the charism, Hallmarks, and mission of the SNDdeN community.



Highlights from our Learning Communities

SNDdeN Student Leadership Conference

From June 23 to 26, students and chaperones from our U.S. East-West and Ohio Province schools gathered at Emmanuel College in Boston for the annual SNDdeN National Student Leadership Conference. Through participating in workshops, prayer and community-building, students deepened their understanding of the Notre Dame mission, created relationships with students from other SNDdeN schools, and explored how to lead with courage, compassion, and faith in action.



Students gather at Emmanuel College in Boston



Notre Dame de Namur University Honors Kris Crowe Zavoli with the 2025 Indefatigable Award

Notre Dame de Namur University (NDNU) honored alumna Kris Crowe Zavoli ('68, '73) with this year's Indefatigable Award. The annual award, named for the vessel that carried six Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur from Belgium to the United States in 1844, is given to an individual whose body of work exemplifies the Sisters' "unflagging, inexhaustible determination to make the world a better place."

"We are delighted to present this award to Kris—she is truly a force for change," said NDNU President Beth Martin, Ph.D. "In the spirit of the Sisters of Notre Dame, Kris embodies leadership, courage, and an unwavering passion for education—qualities that both inspire others and drive meaningful action. As a former Director of Admissions, she connected hundreds of students to NDNU, and through her work with the College Board and beyond, she has been a steadfast champion for equity and access in education."

Read more [here](#).



Make sure to follow us for more!



OUR CALL TO ACTION

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U.S. East-West Province

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