2020
ANNUAL REPORT
OF
Appreciation
SISTERS OF THE PRESENTATION
DUBUQUE, IOWA
Companioning Our Vulnerable in Distress

The following litany, Companioning Our Vulnerable in Distress, composed by Sister Paula Schwendinger in response to COVID-19, is prayed daily at the Presentation Motherhouse and beyond. We share this litany with you as we continue to pray for healing and strength during these difficult times.

Response: Protect them,
Spirit of God

For all health care workers who are attending to the needs of those affected by the virus. We pray …

For all those who are employed in jobs where they put their own health at risk. We pray …

For the homeless who do not have access to many resources, that they be kept safe. We pray …

For those in nursing homes, and other health care facilities who are vulnerable and may feel alone because they can’t have visitors. We pray …

For those who live alone and are fearful about their daily needs being met. We pray …

For those who have lost their jobs due to mandatory closings. We pray …

For parents who worry for the well-being of their children. We pray …

For our associates, families, benefactors and friends, who rely and trust in our prayers for them. We pray …

For all our employees who are taking extra measures to keep us safe, and for their families. We pray …

For those who have tested positive and are in isolation, that they may remain calm in the midst of the uncertainty. We pray …

For each of us, as we make decisions each day, may we keep the vulnerable in mind.

Adjusting to a new norm during a pandemic is difficult. The changes required by all this past year demonstrated that we are one world, connected in mysterious ways and responsible for one another. History reminds us that hardships call us to unite, stay strong and make choices knowing we depend on each other, thus offering hope. We have the strength to make sacrifices, act with kindness and set aside differences to care for the vulnerable.

The 2020 report includes sentiments reflected from lines in the litany “Companioning Our Vulnerable in Distress” from sisters who put themselves at risk by continuing to serve those in need; staff members who ensure the health and safety of the sisters living at the motherhouse; and you, our partners in mission, who provide time, talent and treasure to the Presentation Sisters. Your support enables us to continue our mission and maintain active ministries all over the country and Bolivia, following the footsteps of Nano Nagle.

Today, we utilize our time and talents to develop creative ways in meeting the needs of the most vulnerable. Sisters and associates connect through phone calls and texts. Handwritten letters have warmed people’s hearts. Newly-learned technological skills bring smiles to those not seen in person. Charitable donations have increased, fulfilling our mission by bringing a bit of light and joy to all in need. The inspiration of Nano’s hospitality continues to be a lantern in the darkness.

We ask you to keep the vulnerable in your prayers. Pray for healing and strength through the pandemic and offer each other hope and peace. In this we pray …

For those who are being treated for the virus, and for their families. We pray …

For immigrants, refugees, and all people on the margins, whose lives are further interrupted by the virus. We pray …

Response: Give them wisdom,
Spirit of God

For government officials, who are responsible for making laws that they may listen to doctors and those with medical knowledge and act for the benefit of all. We pray …

That political agendas can be set aside as all lawmakers work together for the common good. We pray …

For those who are working behind the scenes to increase the supplies needed to test and treat the virus. We pray …

For those who are using their time and talents to help those who are most vulnerable. We pray …

For scientists and researchers who are working to develop a vaccine. We pray …

For corporate and business owners, who are trying to keep their businesses afloat, while thinking of those whom they employ. We pray …

For each of us, that as we make decisions during this time we may keep the vulnerable in mind. We pray …
Because of the ongoing support of you, our partners, we, have been able to help many people through presence, service, hospitality and support who would not otherwise have received assistance. We simply could not do the work we do without your partnership and prayers. You are remembered with special gratitude in the daily prayers and ministry of the Sisters of the Presentation. Thank you for being Presentation partners in mission!

2020 Presentation Partners in Mission

We wholeheartedly thank the following individuals, families, businesses and organizations for their generous support of Presentation life and ministry in 2020.

Jo Ann Abts
Bill and Karen A. Adams
Michael and Regina Adams
Gary and Catherine Adler
Troy and Melissa Ahlquist
Beaverly Albanese
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Mary Catherine Bunce and Jeffery Scott
Robert and Ann Bunn
Joseph and Molly Burger
Richard and Marlene Burgmeier
Tom Burkart
Joan Burke

It is our intention that this report accurately reflects the names of our donors. If there is an error with your name, please let us know by using the contact information on the back of this report. We also remember in our prayers our deceased partners whose names are marked with an asterisk (*). We include their names in gratitude for their faithful friendship and commitment to the Sisters of the Presentation and in honor of their memory.
For all our employees who are taking extra measures to keep us safe, and for their families. We pray ...

**Brenda LeMay, Director of Nursing**

We are blessed with a compassionate team of hardworking individuals who continue to provide top notch care to the sisters during this unexpected pandemic. We immediately began to follow the safety recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and Iowa Department of Public Health. The nursing team banded together, working to fill schedule gaps, putting their own fears aside and taking time away from their families. It is true that by working together, sisters and staff, we have achieved more and have successfully kept our sisters healthy.

**Lisa Behnke, Director of Food Service**

I would like to start by saying thank you to my wonderful food service staff for going the extra mile to keep our department and sisters safe during the pandemic and stepping up to work extra hours when needed. Thanks to all my helpers for keeping the food line running smoothly. I know it hasn’t been easy wearing all the shields and masks. Every little thing that you do is appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

Mary Ann Burke
Michael and Sharon Burke
Shirley Burmeister
Darel and Kay Burns
William and Judi Burns
Ruth Ruden Burrows
Gilbert and Beverly Buscher
James Buscher
Robert and Jeanette Buscher
Thomas Buscher
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Hazel Conforti
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Michael and Kathryn Coyle
Cretin-Derham Hall, St. Paul, MN

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Janet Cuevas
Mick and Michele Culbertson
Jacquie Cullen
John and Mary Cullen
Terrance and Mary Ellen Cullen
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Mary Delphay
Marilyn Demers
*Norma Denlinger
Roger and Debra Denlinger
Eleanor Depuydt
Sal Dermer
Caitlyn Deutmeyer
Alexander and Shirley Devereux
Daniel E. Diesburg
Divine Word College, Epworth, IA
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James and Linda Dolan
Gail Dolphin
Gary and Cindy Dolphin
Linda Dolphin
Max and Rebecca Dominguez
David and Theresa Dominy
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John and Leann Donovan
Mary Dorsett
Elizabeth Doughan
Elizabeth Dougherty
Gene Dougherty
Keith and Carol Dougherty
Jerry and Barbara Drees
Mary Ann Drees
Lorraine Drew
Dan and Tracy Drey
Dubuque Bank & Trust, Dubuque, IA
Dubuque County Emergency Management Agency, Dubuque, IA
Dubuque Food Pantry, Dubuque, IA
Dubuque Mattress Factory, Dubuque, IA
Judy DuRay
Dorothy Duffy
James and Mary Duffy
Jeffery and Julie Duncan
Kenneth and Nancy Dunkel
Matthew and Melissa Duve
William Easton
For those in nursing homes, and other health care facilities who are vulnerable and may feel alone because they can’t have visitors. We pray ...

Sister Jane Conrad, Chaplain, South Dakota

In my hospital ministry, I have seen many people suffer with COVID-19. My heart goes out to the nursing staff. They are not used to seeing so much death day after day. Every time I go into the ICU unit, I try to speak to each staff member and offer encouragement and support for all they are doing for their patients. We have many tears when there are several deaths in one day. Yet there are joys when the patient’s favorite song is being played as they are leaving the unit. This time has been a growing experience for all of us in the medical environment.
For the homeless who do not have access to many resources, that they be kept safe. We pray …

Sisters Julie Marsh and Mary Lou Specha, Hotel Hope, Louisiana

At our ministry, love and hospitality guide the daily interactions with guests, volunteers and staff. Families experiencing homelessness face many uncertainties as they navigate a safe place to stay. We serve the most vulnerable in our community, women with children who only want the best for their family. We believe sharing our light helps dispel the dark days many of us have faced this past year.
For immigrants, refugees and all the people on the margins, whose lives are further interrupted by the virus. We pray …

Greg and Stacey Lickteig, Omaha, Nebraska
COVID-19 or not, Stacey and I give to the Sisters of Presentation in gratitude for the role they played in my elementary and secondary education in the 1970s and 1980s in Algona, Iowa. Moreover though, the sisters are a model of servant leadership. They are a source of inspiration and hope for the Church and the world at large as an advocate for those less fortunate, especially the poor and the immigrant. They speak out to protect the environment and are a brave voice for change. They live lives in aspiration to be living testaments to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

For each of us, that as we make decisions during this time we may keep the vulnerable in mind. We pray …

Anonymous, Sequim, Washington
We feel it is very important to help others. In supporting the Sisters of the Presentation, we feel that our contributions can reach many organizations, groups and people that are in need, as well as the sisters. We look forward to making future contributions to the Sisters of the Presentation.
For those who are using their time and talents to help those who are most vulnerable. We pray …

Susan Murphy, Dubuque, Iowa
As a Presentation associate, employee and partner in mission, I feel connected to the sisters in many ways. At various times of the year, I make special occasion gifts for the sisters and the employees. My husband, Dwayne and I work as a team. I come up with an idea, Dwayne creatively works on the design, then I craft them. Receiving these little touches of kindness mean more now than in the past. The joy and appreciation on their faces makes me smile.
For all our employees who are taking extra measures to keep us safe, and for their families. We pray...

Jean Lange, House Coordinator
Elizabeth Edwards said, “Resilience is accepting your new reality, even if it’s less good than the one you had before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you’ve lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that’s good.” This is what the Mount Loretto staff has done from day one of COVID-19, pulling together to make something good in order to keep sisters and employees safe. With dedication and concern for all, employees showed up day after day, ready to do all they could to protect and serve.

Linda Brown, Director of Housekeeping
Our housekeeping staff members have taken additional steps to ensure the health and safety of sisters and employees. They are cleaning high traffic areas more often, disinfecting high touch surfaces and keeping sanitizer stations full. A challenge we had, especially early on, was the struggle to find toilet paper and necessary cleaning supplies. Thankfully, local organizations and individuals made contributions of masks, face shields, toilet paper and even sanitizer! Because of these donations, your ongoing support and our highly dedicated housekeeping staff, we are able to do our best to keep Mount Loretto safe.

Kathleen Sexton  
Patricia Shaw  
Michael Sheehan  
Jean Shey  
Maurice and Diane Shields  
Glenn and Pam Sibbel  
Maureen Siegert  
Mary Beth Siegert-Hinz  
George and Dorann Simon  
Kathleen Simon  
Sandy Simon  
Thomas and Beth Simpson  
Gary and Kathleen Sisler  
Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, IA  
Sisters of St. Francis, Dubuque, IA  
Sisters of the Presentation, Employees, Dubuque, IA  
Michael and Sandra Skahill  
Sarann Slattery  
Daniel and Janice Smith  
Daniel and Rebecca Smith  
David and Patricia Smith  
John Smith  
Mary Smith  
Steven and Debra Smith  
Frank and Alice Somodji  
James and Mindy Sorensen  
Robert and Julie Ann Soule  
Stephen Spates  
James and Rose Sprout  
Rita Stanley  
Mary Stanton  
Donald and Elizabeth Staudt  
Donavon Staudt  
Paul and Jean Staudt  
George and Heidi Stavnes  
Clement and Mary Jane Steele  
Florian and Karen Steffen  
Paul Steier  
John and Sandra Steighner  
Honore Steimel  
Reverend Craig Steimel  
Dorothy Steinberg  
Rich and Michelle Stender  
Randy and Constance Stoffel  
Jon Stork  
Straka Johnson Architects P.C., Dubuque, IA  
Sister Mildred Streif, RSM  
Donna Strief  
Orville and Maureen Strothman  
Rob Strycker  
Merlin and Mary Jo Studer  
Kevin Deeny and Megan Stull  
Laddie and Carol Sula  
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Donald and Virginia Swanson  
Jack and Bonnie Sweeney  
John and Stacey Takes  
Judith Takes  
Mary Taylor  
Julie Tebbe  
Kenneth and Marlene Tekippe
Feel free to contact us at any time.

Karen Tuecke
Partners in Mission Coordinator

Sister Carmen Hernandez
Congregational Leadership Team

Sister Rita Menart
Congregational Leadership Team

Sister Joy Peterson
Congregational Leadership Team

Sister Marilyn Breen
Congregational Leadership Team

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For those who live alone and are fearful about their daily needs being met.
We pray …

Sister Cheryl Demmer, Director of Faith Formation, Iowa

During the pandemic I have written over 130 notes to healthcare workers and to parishioners who are in nursing homes or who live alone in an effort to offer compassionate support. In June, we lost a parisioner who died of COVID-19. At her burial, only 10 people could be in attendance and I was blessed to be one of the 10. I asked the woman’s son if he saw his mom before she died and he said, “I saw her through the window.” That was gut wrenching for me.

Patricia Walker
Clement and Judy Walliser
Geraldine Walsh
Patrick and Carol Walsh
Thomas and Anne Walther
Tom Walton
Marty Wathier
Reverend Douglas Wathier
Marlene Weber
Anna Weigel
Denis and Marlene Welch
Caroline Welsh
Ann Wertz and George Sztajer
Bonnie Westendorf
Wexford Rosary Society, Lansing, IA
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Mary Whalen
Donald and Jeanne Wiedner
Les and Phyllis Wildin
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Daniel and Joyce Willenborg
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Roger and Kay Wilson
Lynn Wingert
Monte and Wilma Wingert
Larry and Linda Winkelbauer
Fred Wirtz

Thomas and Carol Witry
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Andrea Wygle
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*Vivian Zalaznik
Joe and Lori Zalaznik
John and Mary Anne Zang
Colleen Zematis
Anne Dudek Zibell
James and Mary Jane Zieser
Marilyn Zieser
Michael and Ginny Zimmerman
Larry and Arratta Znaniecki
The goal of the Partners in Mission Office is to enable the Presentation community to minister today and to be prepared for the ministries of tomorrow through partnership and collaboration with those who share in the mission of the Sisters of the Presentation.

Thank you for being Presentation partners in mission! Your partnership and support is vital to the success of our ministry and the work of our sisters. We share our gratitude with you, as together, we work toward a more just and loving world for all.

Gifts Received January 1 - December 31, 2020

Total Gifts Received* $366,271.97
(*unaudited)

Unrestricted $306,744.78 83.75%

Bequests $31,777.19 8.68%

Memorials $5,800 1.58%

Mission Support $21,100 5.76%

Retirement $850 .23%

Sources of Gifts
- Annual Appeal
- Bequests
- Guest Gifts for Hospitality
- Memorials & Special Occasion Gifts
- Monthly and/or Online Gifts
- Presentation Doorways
- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QRD)
- Stocks/Bonds

Bequest Gifts
We are grateful for the careful estate planning of our deceased partners in mission who included the Sisters of the Presentation in their wills and trusts in 2020.

In 2020, more than $0.92 of every dollar given to the Sisters of the Presentation went directly to support mission and ministry.
Your Gift Truly Makes a Difference

CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2020

TOTAL AMOUNT DONATED
$366,271.97
to the Sisters of the Presentation

1,752
individual gifts contributed, of those 89 were in-kind gifts

93%
of partners made gifts of $500 or under

40
QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION GIFTS
Careful planning allows for gifting while living through an IRA or foundation.

116
GIFTS OVER $500
Our partners believe in our mission and ministry and we are grateful for their gifts.

426
ANNUAL APPEAL
Our annual appeal runs from November 2020 through October 2021.

105
FIRST TIME PARTNERS
The number of new partners continues to gradually rise each year due to our dedicated partners.

85
RECURRING GIFTS
Recurring gifts can be given once a month, bimonthly or quarterly through various convenient payment options.

324
ONLINE GIFTS
Online giving offers a flexible, secure and sustainable way to contribute a one-time gift or monthly donation.

The support of our partners has allowed the Sisters of the Presentation to serve in various ministries within nine states, the District of Columbia and Bolivia. Our donors reside in 42 states and Canada.

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