URSULINE SISTERS OF CLEVELAND

SUMMER 2018
NEWS

CONTEMPLATION | JUSTICE | COMPASSION

15 Ursulines Celebrating Milestone Jubilees PAGE 5

URSULINE SISTERS
OF CLEVELAND

SUMMER 2018 NEWSLETTER

The *Ursuline Sisters News* is published three times a year for friends and supporters of the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland.

Sister Elaine M. Berkopec
Editor
eberkopec@ursulinesisters.org
(440) 449-1200 Ext. 199

Maggie Gibson, Paula Miller, Sisters Dorothy Bondi, Margaret Link, Cheryl Mentkowski, Janet Moore, Carla Murar
Contributing Writers

Cindy Johnson
Director of Development
cjohnson@ursulinesisters.org
(440) 449-1200 Ext. 105

Comments/Corrections:
Mary Moran
Director of Marketing and Communications
mmoran@ursulinesisters.org
(440) 449-1200 Ext. 198

Colleen Slattery
Associate Development Director
cslattery@ursulinesisters.org
(440) 449-1200 Ext. 197

Sister Ritamary Welsh
Major Gifts Officer/Capital Campaign Director
rwelsh@ursulinesisters.org
(440) 449-1200 Ext. 166

Hyatt Bolden
Capital Campaign Coordinator
hbolden@ursulinesisters.org
(440) 449-1200 Ext. 264

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE SCHEDULE

Normal business day hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Normally CLOSED on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Friday after Thanksgiving.

We may be closed during holidays, but our WEB DONATION PAGE is always OPEN and SECURE! https://secure.ursulinesisters.org/Donation.php

Please remember the Ursuline Sisters in your will.

MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Sister Laura Bregar

In her Fifth Counsel Saint Angela reminds us to gather and celebrate on feast days, to encourage one another, to be instruments of peace and harmony and to place our hope in God. In these pages filled with examples of commitment to the mission of the Ursuline Sisters, we see Angela's words personified in sisters, volunteers and lay leaders in our sponsored institutions.

What a blessing to encounter narratives of transformation and accompaniment in these pages! Pay attention to the graced movement of the Spirit in stories of dynamic adaptability, compassion for the individual as a creature loved by God, and service that has at its heart the life and dignity of each human person. Though the pictures and words tell of Jubilee celebrations, the faithful ministry and prayer that have led up to these anniversary festivities are the true hallmarks of lives well-lived. The same is revealed in the committed service rendered at Ursuline College, Beaumont School, Villa Angela-St. Joseph and Urban Community School. No matter how small or large a place of ministry, what is important is the approach to life that seeks the good, the holy, the relational in all things.

No matter how small or large a place of ministry, what is important is the approach to life that seeks the good, the holy, the relational in all things.

Each and every one of you reading these words is also a companion to us, a friend of Angela. Your generosity and friendship enlarge our circle, carrying to our society the mission of the gospel as expressed through the Ursuline spirit. It is our hope that the new home we are currently building, Merici Crossings, will be a beacon of this vibrant living and ministry. Brick by brick, beam by beam, you are building with us a future of hope. "God will provide wonderfully," Saint Angela assured us. A few brief words about our Capital Campaign in these pages remind us that you are not only praying with us, you are actually an answer to our prayer!

Many of Saint Angela's words of wisdom are inspiring. A particular favorite reads, "Do something, get moving, be confident, risk new things, stick with it, get on your knees, then be ready for big surprises." The expression is folksy and charming, but she certainly covered all the bases. May you be inspired both by Angela and by the varied lives included between the covers of this publication, women and men who exemplify for us the living, breathing mission of the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland.

In Saint Angela,

Sister Laura Bregar

Ursuline Sisters Have Dedicated Partners in Ministry

"Transforming society through contemplation, justice, and compassion" summarizes the core of Ursuline ministry. Perhaps the places most identified with the Ursuline mission are the four Ursuline sponsored institutions: Ursuline College, Beaumont School, Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School, and Urban Community School. In each of these places, there are dedicated persons in leadership roles committed to the Ursuline mission. Some of these co-leaders share their stories of their lasting and deep commitment to everything Ursuline.

Richard Konisiewicz

When **Richard Konisiewicz** came to Ursuline College 2½ years ago to assume the role of Vice President for Institutional Advancement, he was no stranger to the Ursulines or Saint Angela Merici, their foundress. He had first met Ursulines about 40 years earlier when he was a seminarian assigned to Christ the King parish. It was in those early years that he first learned of Angela's approach to life, her emphasis on esteeming and helping one another and working together, bonded by the love of Jesus.

Decades later, having walked a different vocational path, Richard continues to find wisdom in Angela's words. "I think that Institutional Advancement is a great department. We are united; we all try to esteem each other, deal with each other with charity; those qualities are all traits of a good boss."

Richard is profoundly moved by the courage, determination and ingenuity that the Renaissance Angela demonstrated in behalf of women at a time when it was revolutionary to do so.

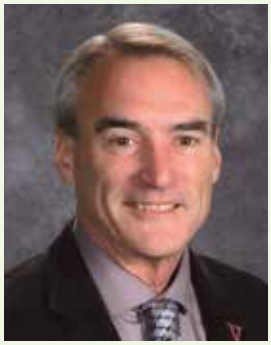
"I think now especially in this highly charged political arena, women do have their voice, and if Angela were alive today I think that she would very definitely have a hashtag in front of her name. She would be active in the women's movements, be a real vocal leader for fairness and social justice." He then added one final thought; he suspects that if Angela were alive today, she would be sought by media news commentators for interviews. Her keen insights and advice would have just as much relevance and value today.

Wendy Hoke

Following a career in journalism and an administrative position at St. Vincent Charity Hospital, **Wendy Hoke** became the first lay President of Beaumont School in 2017. Anyone who meets her is struck by the joy she radiates. She says "I approach life with joy. I have conquered a life-threatening disease (breast cancer); how can I not be joyful?" Wendy, a self-described "devoted Catholic", was inspired by the quiet faith of her mother and grandmother, declaring that spirituality is a part of the fabric of who she is. Wendy also sees women religious as her role models. "I admire the courage of women religious, who have impacted society by bringing health care and education to those who needed it. It is the responsibility of lay persons to carry on the charism and the mission long past the time when the religious are no longer here to do it."

Before considering the Beaumont position, she made certain that the Ursuline Congregation, whom she considers, "a terrific role model and partner," supported the transition. Although she confesses that she knew nothing about St. Angela before accepting her current position, she was instantly inspired by St. Angela, "a modern day woman, with a timely message." She sees St. Angela's call to transform society through the education of women as the primary goal of Beaumont School. This feeling of mission "hit me like a thunderbolt the first time I walked around the school" and is the center of everything she does. There are those in today's world who are seeking to change society, and Wendy Hoke is determined to make Beaumont part of that discussion.

William (Bill) Cervenik



William (Bill) Cervenik has come full circle at Villa Angela St.-Joseph High School. He is an alumnus of St. Joseph High School, and just finished his "sophomore year" there again… this time as President.

The school is celebrating its 25th anniversary of the merger of Villa Angela Academy and St. Joseph High School. The Ursuline Sisters founded the former; the Society of Mary, the latter. Bill states, "The educational values of these two communities are so close! What we are doing inside the building lives up to the mission of Ursuline and Marianist values: Be an example. That is the best way to teach." Recognizing the needs of a diverse student body at VASJ, staff and faculty bring compassion to their dealings with students and their parents.

Each school day begins with a morning prayer taken from St. Angela, and ends with an afternoon prayer from the Marianist tradition. This gives the environment a "family feel" to the students.

Students learn to respond to the needs of others; they do volunteer service as part of the VASJ curriculum. The effect on their lives is long term: "They learn to enjoy and understand the meaning of service and bond with people in society." Bill relates the story of a VASJ alum in a hospice where some students were doing their volunteer service. The alum was happy to see students from his old school and they, in turn, enjoyed their visits with him. They even pooled their resources and bought him a VASJ sweatshirt, which he was thrilled to receive.

Bill is well familiar with the Ursuline legacy of "pray and serve." "If students take that with them, they will be O.K.; they will make it."

Tom Gill

Tom Gill, President of Urban Community School, knows the Ursuline mission: It's all about the individual child. He understands the need to offer a compassionate response to the children in front of him. The high stress level that challenges these children needs to be addressed if they are to have a chance to succeed. One example of such stress is the ongoing suffering caused in Puerto Rico due to Hurricane Maria. Many of the students have family members living there.

Compassion founded on prayer might be considered the most important value the Ursulines offer in their ministry at Urban. Every day the school starts with prayer. Tom firmly believes that "This separates UCS from being just any charter school. The kids come to appreciate their relationship with God throughout life. There is no path forward without deep spirituality to sustain the individual."

Tom became very familiar with the Ursulines when he was in El Salvador. "From day one, I came to know the story of Dorothy Kazel…. I've strongly associated the Ursulines with concern for the poor, the quest for justice." He was drawn to Urban Community School because of this focus on justice and concern for the poor that he witnessed.

Tom sees St. Angela Merici as a role model. "She had tremendous commitment, laid out a vision, got people on board, and made an impact on the world." The most important legacy of Angela and the Ursulines, he believes, is the focus on the individual; all are children of God and need our care. "That is a fundamental characteristic of Ursuline education."

Angela took a leap of faith to start the Ursuline community. The mission's sustainability depends on faith. The Ursuline reputation paired with the need for a school like Urban has caused people to support it. "If we are doing the right thing, God will provide. Urban's history doesn't make sense without a strong element of faith."

URSULINE JUBILARIANS
Celebrate Lives of Faithfulness

DIAMOND JUBILARIANS

On April 15, 2018, ten Ursuline Sisters celebrated their Diamond Jubilees with a Jubilee liturgy in the Chapel of the Most Holy Trinity. These sisters were: Sister M. Eugene (75 years); Sisters John Mary, Patricia Dippel, Myra Skebe (70 years); Sisters Patricia Kukwa, Dianne Brickman, Peggy Duffy, M. Praxedes, Marie Ellen Kuhel, and Mary Joan Grisez (60 years).

Sister Mary Eugene Gear

Sister Mary Eugene Gear entered the convent in 1943 and subsequently served as teacher, librarian, principal, or program director at St Malachi, Urban Community, St. Clare, St. Mary (Mentor), St Joseph (Collinwood), St. Philomena, St. Aloysius, Christ the King, St. Timothy, Archbishop Lyke, Martin de Porres Schools and Woodhill Home Estates After School Project. Add to that list her eight years of elected congregational leadership. Today she continues to serve at Regina Health Center where she ministers in the apostolate of prayer and service to her fellow residents. Over the years she has been recognized and given awards by a number of educational associations, but to fully appreciate who Sister Eugene is and why she does what she does, one must understand her motivation. Sister Eugene has always been and still is totally dedicated to the poor, especially poor children. When asked for what she is most grateful in her life as an Ursuline, Sister states, "Since I entered the community in 1943 I have always been accompanied by Ursulines who put poor children first and who follow St. Angela's compassion for the poor."

Sister John Mary Blaser

Sister John Mary Blaser entered the Ursuline Sisters in 1947 from Christ the King parish in East Cleveland. Her 70 years as an Ursuline has included a variety of ministries, such as teaching in Catholic grade schools; teaching mathematics at Beaumont High School, becoming assistant principal for three years, then principal of curriculum and instruction for another three years, and finally principal for three more years until 1980. After her service at Beaumont, Sister John Mary served on the Ursuline Sisters leadership team for eight years. After her service to the congregation and one year at Ursuline College, she continued serving the congregation as General Treasurer for 15 years. Upon "retiring" in 2006, Sister offered her talent and skills as a math tutor in the Ursuline Institute of Learning, Chanel High School, and Urban Community School for seven years. She currently ministers at Regina Health Center with her prayer and presence. Always the dedicated teacher, she tutors students in math upon request. Always a deeply dedicated Ursuline Sister, she states: "I am most grateful for our Ursuline Community. We are blessed by the relationships we have within our Community. It is so evident here at Regina."

Sister Patricia Dippel

Sister Patricia Dippel, formerly known as Sister Joseph Francis, entered the Ursulines from her home parish of St. Philomena. Over the years Sister taught all the elementary grades except 3rd and 5th; she also served as a principal in two schools. There was one brief hiatus in school ministry when she was formation director for young sisters. The parishes where Sister served were: St. Columbkille, St. Therese, Christ the King, St. Jerome, St. Joseph, St. Francis de Sales, St. Clare, and finally St. Charles, where she moved into ministry to the elderly after having served as teacher and school secretary. The gift she brought to all these positions was her genuine love and respect for those whom she served. She also learned from them all—the children, the parents, her colleagues, the elderly. Sister enjoyed her life at all its stages, including in January of 2018, when she decided "it was time" to move to Regina Health Center. She recently said, "I am truly grateful to our dear Lord for allowing me the 'true gift' of a religious vocation and the graces needed to carry it out this long!"

Sister Myra Skebe

Sister Myra Skebe may be best known as the sister who created lovely crosses out of palm branches. She no longer engages in this project since she moved to Regina Health Center, but she continues her ministry of "prayer and presence" for those who know her or have requested any prayers from the Ursuline Sisters.

Sister Myra devoted nearly all of her Ursuline life to education. She taught in various Catholic grade schools for many years, then offered her expertise and experience to serve in the Cleveland Diocesan Religious Education Department for eight years. Her ministry included work as Coordinator of Religious Education and Minister of Catechesis at Sacred Heart Parish in Oberlin. She served there for 15 years.

Sister Myra is most grateful for the opportunity to be local coordinator of the Rainbow Program for seven years. This program provided peer support to help children who were grieving a death, divorce, or other painful transition within their families. She reflects on this ministry, "What an honor and a privilege to have journeyed with so many children over the years. My ministry focused upon them—helping to make their dream a reality and giving them hope for the future."

Sister Patricia Kukwa

Sister Patricia Kukwa (formerly Sister Mary Benedicta) entered the congregation from St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in Euclid.

Her commitment to Catholic education includes serving as an elementary teacher for 15 years at Our Lady of Peace, Holy Cross, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Francis de Sales, St. Joseph, and Immaculate Conception in Willoughby.

She continued in educational administration as Principal of St. Mary Magdalene, St. Francis de Sales, and St Robert Bellarmine schools.

At Lake Catholic High School, Sister Pat served as Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Faculty Development. She ministered at Lake Catholic for 21 years, and was inducted into the Lake Catholic Hall of Excellence.

Currently, Sr. Patricia serves on the Ursuline Motherhouse Coordinating Team and as part-time receptionist at the Carmelite Monastery of the Holy Family in Cleveland Heights. She relates that "the highlight of my life, was to participate in a pilgrimage to Brescia, Italy. Walking in the footsteps of our foundress, St. Angela, was truly a life-giving and memorable experience."

Sister Patricia appreciates the commitment of those colleagues with whom she has been associated throughout the years. She reflects: "I'm grateful and privileged to have shared my gifts with these faith-filled Catholic educators and for their sacrifices and service to our students and families. They will always remain in my prayers."

Sister Dianne Brickman

Sister Dianne Brickman entered the Ursuline Sisters from St. Timothy Parish. For 30 years her ministry was teaching in elementary schools, including: St. Therese, St. Catherine, St. Francis de Sales, St. Robert, St. Charles, and Immaculate Conception in Willoughby.

For the last 27 years she has been involved in ministry at the Ursuline Motherhouse assisting with building and grounds (you may have seen her on the riding mower during grass cutting season!) and the hospitality committee. For eight years she took care of and worked with "Bess" the resident border collie with the job of chasing the geese off the Motherhouse and College properties. Sister's spare time is filled with making wooden crosses for sales and gifts and delightfully detailed wood bird houses for Ursuline Derby Day, the annual Ursuline Sisters' fundraiser.

Her words best express her reflection on her most recent vocation: "I am most grateful for the wonderful opportunity of working at the Motherhouse and living with my sisters there for the last fifteen years."

Sister Peggy Duffy

Sister Peggy Duffy joined the Ursulines from St. Francis de Sales. Her early ministry was teaching in 10 parish elementary schools, including St. Mary Magdalene, St. Charles, St. Francis de Sales, Christ the King, Our Lady of Peace, Immaculate Conception in Willoughby, St. Paul School, and St. Joseph in Avon Lake.

Sister Peggy served as Director of Religious Education for six years and Pastoral Associate for two years. Currently she is part of the Pastoral Team at Our Lady Help of Christians. Sister also serves as a spiritual director, a director of Ignatian Retreats, gives spirituality presentations, facilitates retreats and participates in Nurturing the Call programs sponsored by the Jesuit Retreat House.

Sister Peggy feels fortunate for the many educational opportunities she has had throughout her life. Her training in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius made possible her whole-hearted response to a "call within a call" as spiritual director and counselor. As she looks back, she reflects that she is grateful for "Ursuline Sisters who mentored me throughout my teaching career, for the young children I have taught, my time in parish ministry, training in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius and the example of St. Angela."

Sister M. Praxedes Wakefield

Sister M. Praxedes Wakefield came to the Ursulines from Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish (formerly St. Gregory's). Sister taught 2nd to 6th grades during her career as an elementary school teacher. Some of the schools at which she ministered were: St. Ann School (now Communion of Saints), St. Catherine School, and St. Charles School. Sister began a Diocesan program for the deaf in 1962, and for 25 years worked with hearing impaired students in Parish School of Religion programs for elementary students and teen retreats for high school students. Some of the religious education schools who received her ministry were St. Richard, St. Brendan, and St. Mary Magdalene. Sister is currently engaged in internal ministry at the Motherhouse with our sisters both active and retired.

As Sister Praxedes looks back on the years of her vocation, she reflects, "I firmly believe that 'charity begins at home,' and that we should be the compassion of God to others as our foundress, St. Angela Merici, implores, 'God made us to be happy and we should co-operate.'" She offers one last thought: "Effort is success with God."

Sister Marie Ellen Kuhel

Sister Marie Ellen Kuhel came to the Ursuline Community from St. Francis de Sales Parish in Parma.

Education became an integral part of her life for 27 years as she served first as a 5th grade teacher at St. Agnes Parish School then as a teacher of Religion, English and/or Music at grade schools and high schools throughout the Diocese of Cleveland.

Sister Marie Ellen has lived her mission "to affirm in people their baptismal holiness and the sacredness of their daily lives" in various roles throughout her 26 years as Parish Catechetical Leader/Pastoral Associate at St. Francis de Sales; St. Mary, Elyria; St. Eugene; and St. Junipero Serra Parish in Lancaster, California. Her ministries included direction of RCIA, adult faith formation, adult Bible study, family-based sacramental preparation, Parish School of Religion (PSR), Catholic school catechesis, retreats, youth ministry, parish missions, catechist formation, liturgical minister formation, liturgy and music, as well as certification courses for Roman Catholic and Byzantine Catholic dioceses.

She has also shared her gifts of music and spiritual development with parishioners in several parishes throughout the Diocese of Cleveland.

St. Angela continues to guide her to say "yes" to His invitation to leave all "Soli Deo Gloria" ("For the glory of God alone") and to follow after love through dedication to service of others at the Ursuline Motherhouse.

Sister Mary Joan Grisez

Sister Mary Joan Grisez is the ultimate music teacher. She offered individual and group instruction at various Catholic high schools throughout her past 60 years of religious life, including Villa Angela Academy (now VASJ). Her current ministry is that of Music Director at St. Ladislas Parish in Westlake, Ohio, where she has served since 1991. She appreciates and fosters the conviction that "Since Vatican II, the role of music ministry now belongs to the congregation. Theirs is the song and the singing of it. The purpose of the choirs, cantors, keyboard accompaniment artists, and music planning committee is to help the St Ladislas parish worship through prayer and song." (St. Ladislas parish website: http://stladislas.org/pages/Groups-Music-Litugical.) Her ministry bears its fruit in the prayerful participation in the great liturgical prayer of Christ. As an Ursuline Sister, she states, "I am most grateful for the time to devote to contemplative prayer and the freedom to give myself in love."

GOLDEN JUBILARIANS (50 Years)

Five Ursuline Sisters celebrated 50 years of service and commitment with a Golden Jubilee liturgy celebrated on August 5, 2018 in the Chapel of the Most Holy Trinity. These sisters were: Sisters Nancy Beckenhauer, Susan Zion, Mary Eileen Boyle, Virginia DeVinne, and Maria Berlec.

Sister Nancy Beckenhauer

Sister Nancy Beckenhauer entered the Ursulines from St. Philomena Parish. Her career began as the Home Economics teacher at Villa Angela Academy for eight years; she then taught both Home Economics and Religious Studies at Beaumont School in Cleveland Heights.

After completing her Masters' Degree in Theology, she became Beaumont's first Campus Minister. In 1996, Sister Nancy's career changed dramatically when she studied Clinical Pastoral Education at the Cleveland Clinic and in 1998 became chaplain of Hillcrest Hospital. After completing the Pastoral Education program at St. Vincent Charity Hospital and her residency at the Veterans Medical Center, she became the associate supervisor of the program which trained ministers and lay persons in hospital chaplaincy. Eventually she gained educator certification from the National Association of Catholic Chaplains and the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education.

In 2009, Sister became the chaplain at Mercy Hospital in Springfield, Missouri before returning to Cleveland four years later and serving as a certified educator at St. Vincent Charity Hospital. During her tenure, she has trained men and women serving as chaplains everywhere from prisons to hospices. Sister Nancy says that she is most grateful for the many educational and spiritual opportunities she has been given. These have enabled her to be loved and challenged by women in the spirit of St. Angela, her Ursuline Sisters.

Sister Susan Zion

After coming to the Ursuline Community from Immaculate Conception Parish, Cleveland, **Sister Susan Zion** spent the first 23 years of her Ursuline ministry in elementary education. She was assigned to St. William School, St. Therese School, St. Charles School, St Joseph School in Avon Lake, Urban Community School, Immaculate Conception School in Cleveland, and St. Patrick School in West Park. When she ended her career as a classroom teacher she transitioned to a dramatically different ministry, serving for seven years as the Director of the Comprehensive Care Center at the HIV/AIDS clinic in Youngstown. She is currently the Executive Director of the Ursuline Piazza, a facility which provides care for HIV and AIDS patients in Cleveland. Sister Susan declares that the highlight of her Ursuline ministry is "being part of something bigger than myself, as we minister with and among God's people. Wherever I am, all the Ursulines are there. And wherever they are, I am with them too."

Sister Mary Eileen Boyle

Sister Mary Eileen Boyle, entered the Ursuline Community from St. Philomena Parish in Cleveland and served as a classroom teacher for the next 20 years. She was assigned to Immaculate Conception School, St. Joseph School in Collinwood, St. William School, and St. Ann School in Cleveland Heights. Sister Mary Eileen also served for seven years at St. Paul Mission and at Sacred Heart Parish in Montana. For the last 18 years, Sister Mary Eileen has been the Director of Esperanza Threads, an enterprise which "trains unemployed and underemployed people and empowers them to get fair paying jobs by producing earth friendly products." Sister Mary Eileen is grateful for her two families, her birth family and the Ursuline community, for supporting and encouraging her and making it possible for her to reach out in loving service as a woman of the Gospel.

Sister Virginia DeVinne

Sister Virginia DeVinne entered the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland from St. Louis Parish after graduating from Beaumont School in 1967. She began her ministry as an elementary teacher at St. Jerome School and continued as a high school teacher, assistant principal, and principal at Villa Angela Academy until 1988. From 1988-2004 she served in congregational leadership, the last eight of these years as General Superior. She then returned to educational ministry at Ursuline College in 2005. She is currently serving as Associate Director of Advising in the office of Ursuline Resources for Success in Academics (URSA) where she works individually with students transitioning to college. She also enjoys the fact that she can offer support to her sister, Sister Christine De Vinne, President of Ursuline College, while they both minister there. As she looks back over the last 50 years, she reflects: "God has blessed me throughout my life and as an Ursuline Sister. I am so grateful for those who have nurtured me in the charism of Angela and for the opportunity to touch and be touched by the lives of those I have served."

Sister Maria Berlec

Fifty years ago a young Maria Berlec from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish (Wickliffe) entered the Ursulines having no idea where that decision would lead. **Sister Maria Berlec**, currently a teacher of Religion and Spanish at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School, has had a life steeped in educational ministry, with widely varied venues in terms of location, teaching methodology, student need and background. The schools include St. Charles, Urban Community, Villa Angela, St. Peter Chanel, and then a return to VASJ. She also served five years on the Cleveland Mission Team in El Salvador during the height of the Salvadoran civil war, arriving there in 1981 just months after the deaths of Sister Dorothy Kazel and her companions. In El Salvador she learned that the people had far more to give her than she had to give them; she felt her calling was to provide them with the tools to become their best, to enable native leadership. When looking back on her years as an Ursuline, Sister easily identifies the highlight as "all the opportunities to meet and work with so many wonderful people in so many different venues. It has been a joyful adventure – with a lot of laughter."

IT'S ALL ABOUT CARING RELATIONSHIPS

When people hear about capital campaigns their first and natural expectation focuses on asking people for money. Yet what we have learned in the Bold Faith campaign is that **celebrating relationships is the most significant part of a campaign**.

The Ursuline Sisters recently received a very generous and unexpected online gift from Marilyn Rushen, a remarkable woman we had not known before. This prompted an immediate phone call to thank her and to discover her connection to the Ursuline Sisters. Marilyn gave her gift because of her two granddaughters, Julia and Marie, who both had wonderful yet very different experiences at Beaumont School, one of our sponsored institutions.

Marilyn Rushen and Lisa O'Brien

Marilyn's daughter, Lisa O'Brien, the mother of Julia and Marie, explained in more detail. Julia transferred to Beaumont in her sophomore year and had a wonderful experience. She flourished in the Fine Arts program, but was also very gifted in the sciences. She decided to pursue a science career and today is getting her Ph.D. in Nursing at Case Western Reserve University. Lisa told us, "Julia received a world class education at Beaumont."

Marie, the younger daughter, had her heart set on attending Beaumont School, but because of some developmental disabilities, the Cuyahoga East Vocational Education Consortium (CEVEC) was better suited to her needs. Thanks to Sister Gretchen Rodenfels, president of Beaumont at the time, Marie became a part of the Beaumont family. Through the CEVEC program Marie worked in the kitchen and gained important work and life skills. The faculty and staff were very welcoming and Marie blossomed. It was the perfect fit.

Angela Merici, our foundress, encouraged her sisters to have a deep regard and concern for each one entrusted to their care and to "cherish them day and night and to have them all engraved in your heart." Marilyn and Lisa will always be grateful to Beaumont and the sisters for what they did for both daughters by living the spirit of St. Angela.

BOLD FAITH
Building a Future
Campaign for the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland

Rising to the Challenge

Time and again, the Ursuline Sisters offer special prayers of gratitude for all who are supporting the Bold Faith campaign. We are especially grateful for those who helped match the $100,000 challenge given by an anonymous donor in memory of Jean Hulseman Kloos. Each gift and pledge doubled in value. Thank you!

Stretching to a new goal

The response to the Bold Faith campaign has been both gratifying and humbling. Stories like the one told by Marilyn Rushen and Lisa O'Brien have affirmed the sisters in their mission of service they share with so many.

The recent anonymous challenge of $100,000 in honor of Jean Hulseman Kloos pushed the campaign past the $9 million milestone. The total amount raised was $183,794.85. We are so grateful to everyone who contributed to this latest challenge. We now believe we can stretch toward a new goal of $10 million. Every additional gift and pledge helps toward the cost of building and furnishing Merici Crossings. This will also help with any debt financing we may incur to complete the building. Please continue to pray for the success of the campaign and for all of our generous donors.

You can make your gift or pledge today by visiting www.ursulinesisterscampaign.org.

Remembering Sister Kathleen Burke
Artist and Educator

Sister Kathleen Burke (formerly Sister Ambrose) was a woman of great creativity, an influential teacher and colleague, a deeply spiritual Ursuline, filled with wit and compassion, grace and an entrepreneurial spirit. She touched countless lives, especially during her years at Ursuline College. An avid and keen photographer, her photos of water, and trees and stone capture the beauty of nature and wonders across the world.

Sister Kathleen Burke

Kathleen died July 24 at David Simpson House of Hospice of the Western Reserve, in a lake-view room filled with flowers and seashells and cards. She was surrounded by the love of her Ursuline Sisters, family, colleagues and many friends.

Kathleen Mary Burke was born August 2, 1936, the only child of Clarence and Elizabeth (Webster) Burke. She attended St. Philomena School. She entered the Ursulines in 1954, after graduating from Ursuline Academy of the Sacred Heart, and professed final vows in 1960. Sister Kathleen earned a Bachelor of Science in Education from St. John College in 1962, and an MA in Art Education in 1972 in a joint program of Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Institute of Art. She pursued additional studies at the Art Psychotherapy Institute of Cleveland and became a registered Art Therapist in 1981. Sister Kathleen earned her Ph.D. in Art/Art Therapy from the Union Graduate School in 1985.

In 1957, then known as Sister Ambrose, she began her ministry as an elementary teacher. She taught second grade at St. Catherine, Christ the King and Cleveland's Immaculate Conception schools. Assigned to Sacred Heart Academy in 1969, she taught until the school's closing in 1972. That same year, Kathleen began teaching art at Ursuline College.

> *"Believe it for certain at death's last moment you will receive the greatest gift of God's own person. Take it for a fact also that then especially you will recognize me as your faithful friend."*
>
> – 9th Counsel of St. Angela

In 1986, Sister Kathleen created a degree program in Art Therapy at Ursuline College, one of the first of its kind in Ohio. Her students can be found across the country, using the healing power of art to bring comfort and peace to those they serve. And owing to Kathleen's vision and tenacity in initiating it, thousands of people have walked and prayed the Ursuline labyrinth, modeled on one in the cathedral in Chartres, France.

After serving a four-year term in congregational leadership, Kathleen began a new venture, which she called Ursuline ArtSpace. Since its inception, ArtSpace has offered art classes for adults and children, and art therapy outreach programs for L'Arche residents, for women and children in transitional housing and victims of trafficking.

Kathleen is survived by several cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorial donations may be made to the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland at www.ursulinesisters.org.

URSULINE SISTERS
OF CLEVELAND

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
2600 Lander Road
Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124
www.ursulinesisters.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cleveland, OH
Permit #3796

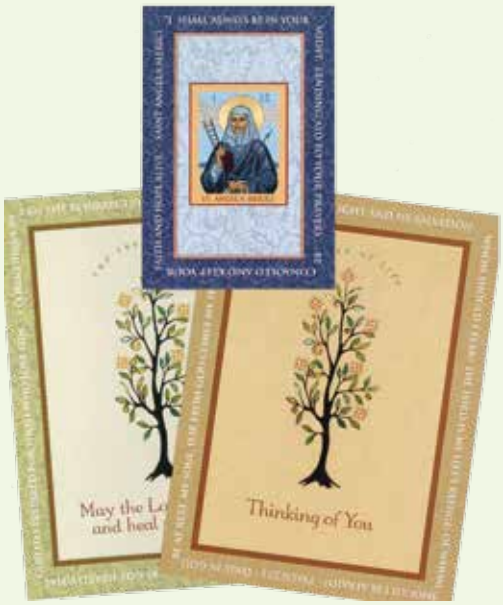
Have a new address? Email? Phone number?

Please help us update your personal information. Call Sr. Elaine at 440.449.1200 ext. 199 or email eberkopec@ursulinesisters.org.

Thank you!

Visit www.UrsulineSisters.org to submit prayer requests.

FRIENDS OF ST ANGELA:
Embraced in prayer by the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland.



Offer the gift of prayer to friends and loved ones. Enroll them in the Friends of St. Angela; they will be remembered during six Eucharistic celebrations in the sisters' Chapel of the Most Holy Trinity. *Thinking of You* cards and *Sympathy* cards are available at the Ursuline Educational Center or by emailing Sister Elaine Berkopec at eberkopec@ursulinesisters.org, or leaving a message at 440-449-1200 extension 199. We only request a donation of $10.00 for each enrollment. Small card inserts for your own personal correspondence are also available.

Enrollment in Perpetual Membership means that they will be remembered in prayer during one Eucharistic celebration each week and on one Sunday each month. Beautiful Perpetual Enrollment cards are also available at the same location; a donation of $30.00 for perpetual enrollment is requested.

Sisters devote special prayers for members as well.