



Blessings

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

Transforming the World Through Education

SPRING 2008

Sister Mary Maher, SSND Installed as General Superior



Clockwise from top left: Outgoing General Superior S. Rosemary Howarth, SSND grants blessing on incoming General Superior S. Mary Maher, SSND and the General Council. S. Mary Maher, SSND at the General Chapter elections in São Paulo, Brazil last fall. Sisters of the Atlantic-Midwest Province in attendance at the Installation included (back) General Superior S. Mary Maher, SSND, S. Kathleen Cornell, SSND, S. Catherine Sarther, SSND (front) S. Peg Mattare, SSND, S. Eileen Weisman, SSND, S. Cathy Arata, SSND, and S. Regis Krusniewski, SSND.

On a bright and sunny January day in Rome, Sister Mary Maher, SSND, first Provincial Leader of the young Atlantic-Midwest Province, was installed as General Superior of the School Sisters of Notre Dame congregation.

In her address to the sisters and friends assembled, S. Mary said, "United with the self-gift of Jesus, dear God, may we School Sisters be ready this day and every day to lay down our lives as bread to be blessed, broken, and shared for the life of the world."

The sisters of the Atlantic-Midwest Province will miss S. Mary's love and guiding presence, but are proud that the newest leader of nearly 4,000 School Sisters of Notre Dame in 35 countries is one of our own. S. Mary is our province's gift to the world.



A Message from Sister Kathleen Cornell, SSND, Provincial Vicar

Dear Friends,

Happy Eastertide and may new life be yours as we celebrate Easter and spring!

As I write this letter, the sisters in the Atlantic-Midwest province are preparing for an election of our next Provincial Council. In this newsletter you will see that Sister Mary Maher was elected General Superior of the School Sisters of Notre Dame and began this ministry in Rome in January 2008. Sister Mary was one of the founding

leaders of our new province and shared her gifts of leadership with us these first two years.

Believing in God's grace we are ready to choose leadership for the next four years and to move forward on our journey of service to God's people and the world. Please pray for both Sister Mary and her council and for us during this special time.

We thank you, our families and friends, for supporting us in all that we do. Your generosity is a precious gift to us and we are grateful. We promise

to remember you and your intentions in our prayers each day.

Peace be with you!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Cornell, SSND
Provincial Vicar

Alive in the Lord

Sister Mary Cyprian Borowski
Born: August 18, 1927
Professed: July 21, 1950
Died: August 30, 2007
Resurrection Life Center
Chicago, IL

Sister Marie Perpetua Kimball
Born: July 2, 1922
Professed: August 3, 1948
Died: September 10, 2007
Maria Health Care Center
Baltimore, MD

Sister Mary Irene Pekar
Born: April 19, 1918
Professed: August 13, 1938
Died: October 19, 2007
Norwalk Hospital
Norwalk, CT

Sister Patrice Harding
Born: September 15, 1925
Professed: August 5, 1944
Died: November 19, 2007
Resurrection Life Center
Chicago, IL

Sister Brigittine Cronin
Born: August 6, 1910
Professed: August 4, 1932
Died: November 20, 2007
Lourdes Health Care Center
Wilton, CT

Sister Madeline Conway
Born: July 22, 1917
Professed: August 13, 1938
Died: November 28, 2007
Lourdes Health Care Center
Wilton, CT

Sister Doris Ann Gentry
Born: April 24, 1929
Professed: August 4, 1951
Died: December 1, 2007
Sinai Hospital
Baltimore, MD

Sister Regina A. Burgan
Born: December 18, 1917
Professed: July 31, 1945
Died: December 21, 2007
Greater Baltimore Medical
Center
Baltimore, MD

“
*Make yourself familiar
with the angels, and
behold them frequently
in spirit; for without
being seen, they are
present with you.*
”

-Saint Francis de Sales

Sister Bernice Staub
Born: December 7, 1928
Professed: August 4, 1951
Died: January 15, 2008
Hospice
Rochester, NY

Sister Rita Mary Schweihs
Born: May 29, 1916
Professed: August 5, 1936
Died: January 24, 2008
Resurrection Life Center
Chicago, IL

Sister Helen Galvin
Born: July 13, 1920
Professed: July 29, 1940
Died: January 28, 2008
Lourdes Health Care Center
Wilton, CT

Sister Benedicta Viebeck
Born: July 6, 1913
Professed: April 1, 1938
Died: February 28, 2008
Greater Baltimore Medical
Center
Baltimore, MD

Sister Mary Theresia Bednarik
Born: April 2, 1912
Professed: August 4, 1932
Died: March 4, 2008
Lourdes Health Care Center
Wilton, CT

Sister Barbara Dewey
Born: December 3, 1924
Professed: August 3, 1950
Died: March 5, 2008
Lourdes Health Care Center
Wilton, CT

Sister Jean Marie Wall
Born: January 31, 1918
Professed: August 13, 1938
Died: March 7, 2008
Lourdes Health Care Center
Wilton, CT

Sister Mary Barbara Schaefer
Born: May 8, 1921
Professed: July 18, 1942
Died: March 26, 2008
Villa Notre Dame/Mother
Pascal Community
Wilton, CT

Sister Mary Ancilla Castellano
Born: October 1, 1912
Professed: August 10, 1934
Died: March 31, 2008
Maria Health Care Center
Baltimore, MD



A Message from Pamela Giblon, Director of Mission Advancement

Dear Partners in Mission:

My third letter to you as Director of Mission Advancement continues to speak about the ever-changing flow within the two-year old Atlantic-Midwest Province. With the election of S. Mary Maher to General Superior, our Chapter of Election must elect a new Provincial Leader and six new Provincial Councilors. We offer prayers for the first and second Provincial Councils during this difficult period of transition.

Some discoveries I have made need your attention! We are missing nearly all of your email addresses and many that we have are incorrect. Could you kindly provide and update your email address and send in the enclosed envelope? Thank you.

Since the birth of the new Atlantic-Midwest Province, we have received a staggering 27,213 gifts! Donors represent every one of the fifty states with the

exception of Wyoming and Utah! And, when we speak of internationality, donations have come from such diverse foreign nations as Japan, Saudi Arabia, Canada and the Cayman Islands.

Exciting things are happening with the formation of a new Advisory Council in Wilton who, with a committee, have decided to undertake a silent auction fundraiser at the Octoberfest on October 11th. The Advisory Councils in Baltimore and Chicago are being renewed and invigorated, and we are looking forward to participation and support.

Celebrations of the SSND 175th anniversary are taking place throughout the province with special donor recognition events featuring new venues and festivities. It is wonderful to celebrate not only the anniversary, but also the generosity of our donors.

The Pilgrimage to Bavaria, also a celebration of the founding of SSND, is featured both on our Web site and in this

newsletter. A limited amount of space is still available on this very popular offering. This is a perfect opportunity for alumni groups, associates, and friends to deepen their own spirituality, while tracing the roots of Blessed Theresa in beautiful Bavaria.

As I travel through the province I feel so welcomed by all of you, and I truly enjoy hearing your stories. Thank you for your support of Mission Advancement and our effort to enhance the lives of all of the sisters and those whose lives are touched by them.

With prayerful hope,

Pamela Giblon,
Director of Mission Advancement
pgiblon@amsnd.org
(203) 762-4111



Your Will should be reviewed periodically as changes in your life occur, especially if you have married or remarried or have new children or grandchildren. Keep in mind all the tax law changes that have occurred over the recent years.

The next time you review your Will, please consider leaving a bequest to SSND, maybe as a

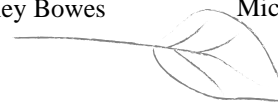
memorial to a favorite teacher, or in honor of a family member. If you would like to leave a bequest, please use the following: "I give, devise and bequeath to the Atlantic-Midwest Province of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Inc., for its general purposes all (or state fraction) of the rest, residue or remainder of my estate, whether real or personal."

Please contact Joy Nazzaro for a free brochure or more information at (203) 762-4113 or jnazzaro@amsnd.org.



Many companies match employees' donations to charities. If you work for a company that matches donations, please ask your company for their matching gift form, and send it in with your donations. These are just a few of the companies that have matched our donors' gifts:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Aetna | ExxonMobil |
| Macy's | Unilever |
| Altria | General Electric |
| Pfizer | Verizon |
| Bank of America | JP Morgan/Chase |
| Pitney Bowes | Microsoft |



IF YOUR COMPANY IS NOT LISTED, IT STILL MAY HAVE A MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM. IT PAYS TO ASK!

Our most recent members of the Blessed Theresa of Jesus Bequest Society who have notified us that they have remembered SSND in their Will are...

- Anonymous
- Robert W. Kastner
- John R. Lindung
- James O'C. Gentry
- M. Cecilia Walsh
- Mary Wienn

School Sisters of Notre Dame
Atlantic-Midwest Province
Department of Mission Advancement
345 Belden Hill Road
Wilton, CT 06897
www.amssnd.org



SSNDs and Friends Celebrate 175th Anniversary

In celebration of our year-long commemoration of the School Sisters of Notre Dame 175th anniversary, donors and friends gathered at Villa Assumpta in Baltimore recently for a Mass and reception.

We will continue to come together throughout this year to celebrate the School Sisters of Notre Dame historic milestone. Look for opportunities in your area to thank the sister who made a difference in your life.



Above, long-time supporter Mary Gunning and Cecilia Walsh, the newest member of the Bequest Society. At right, Baltimore Advisory Council member Fran Miner and Jeanne Mott.



Above, Atlantic-Midwest Provincial Vicar S. Kathleen Cornell, SSND, Dr. Mary Pat Seurkamp, President of College of Notre Dame of Maryland and Bob Seurkamp.



In Celebration of the 175th Anniversary of the School Sisters of Notre Dame...



A 10-Day Pilgrimage to Bavaria and Austria

September 15-24, 2008

\$2,495 from Washington-Dulles, New York-JFK
and Boston-Logan
\$2,595 from Chicago-O'Hare

Come enjoy the sights and sounds of the School Sisters of Notre Dame's birthplace. Follow in the footsteps of our Blessed Mother Theresa Gerhardinger, and experience the Germany that few tourists see!

Create memories, meet new friends and see the world in a way you never thought possible. Don't let someone else take your seat on this journey of a lifetime!

For more information or to reserve your space, contact Michelle Creed at (800) 993-7763 or visit our Web site at www.amssnd.org

All prices are based on double-occupancy and are all-inclusive.

Mail in a \$300 deposit per person to secure your reservation.

***Act now! All registrations must be received by
MAY 30, 2008!***

2008 SSND Pilgrimage Registration

To reserve your place on this historic journey, please fill out the information below, and mail it with your \$300 deposit(s) to:

School Sisters of Notre Dame
Atlantic-Midwest Province
Department of Mission Advancement
345 Belden Hill Road
Wilton, CT 06897

Name(s) _____

Address(es) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ E-mail _____

Enclosed is a check for \$_____ to hold _____ reservation(s).

Made checks payable to ***Pilgrimage Tours.***



A 10-Day Pilgrimage to Bavaria and Austria

Monday, September 15, 2008 – USA / MUNICH

Today, we will depart from our international gateways for our overnight flights to Munich. Meals will be served in-flight.

Tuesday, September 16, 2008 – MUNICH / FRIESING / REGENSBURG

We will arrive in Munich and visit the town of Friesing, followed by Regensburg along the Danube River. We will visit the Cathedral of St. Peter and celebrate Mass there. We will have dinner and spend the night in Regensburg.

Wednesday, September 17, 2008 – REGENSBURG / STADTAMHOF

This morning, we will enjoy a sightseeing tour of Stadtamhof, the birthplace of the foundress of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Blessed Mother Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger. We return to Regensburg for dinner and to spend the night.

Tuesday, September 18, 2008 – REGENSBURG / DANUBE RIVER / MUNICH

We will take an afternoon cruise on the Danube, traveling from Regensburg to Passau. Next, we will visit a local brewery in Munich, followed by a trip to Dachau and its infamous concentration camp. We will return to Munich where we visit the Asamkirche, have dinner and spend the night.

Friday, September 19, 2008 – MUNICH

We will celebrate morning Mass at the Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady) in Munich, followed by a visit the Motherhouse of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Next, we will visit Blessed Theresa's tomb, located inside Munich's St. James Church. We also will visit Bavaria's famous Ottobeuren Abbey to join in the monastic Liturgy of the Hours. We will tour the majestic basilica and visit the Chapel of St. Benedict and the Abbey Museum. Next, we will visit the Weis Church before returning to Munich for dinner and to spend the night.

Sunday, September 20, 2008 – MUNICH / FÜSSEN / OBERAMMERGAU

Today, we will visit Oberammergau and the site of the famous Passion Play, as well as King Ludwig II's Castle. We will then visit the city of Füssen, where we will visit another of King Ludwig II's castles: the Neuschwanstein Castle, one of the world's marvels. We will return to Munich for dinner and to spend the night.

Sunday, September 21, 2008 – MUNICH / ALTÖTTING / SALZBURG

We will take a morning visit to Altötting, one of Germany's most celebrated shrines, where we will celebrate Mass. We will pay a visit to Maria Plain en route to Salzburg. We will arrive in Salzburg in time for dinner and to spend the night.

Monday, September 22, 2008 – SALZBURG / VIENNA

Today, we will visit the famous Swarovski Crystal Factory in Salzburg. Next, we will continue to Vienna, stopping at Our Lady of Maria Taferl, where we will celebrate Mass. Next, we will visit the Melk Abbey along the Danube River. We will also enjoy a visit to the Gottweig Abbey before arriving in Vienna for dinner and to spend the night.

Tuesday, September 23, 2008 – VIENNA / MARIAZELL

This morning, we will visit St. Stephen's Cathedral, where we will celebrate Mass and see the miraculous image of Our Lady of Mariapocs. We will also visit the Imperial Palace, the Church of St. Charles Borromeo and Otto Wagner's Stadtbahn pavilions. We will take an afternoon excursion to Mariazell, the most famous Marian Shrine in Austria. We will enjoy a farewell dinner together and spend the night in Vienna.

Wednesday, September 24, 2008 – VIENNA / USA

Following breakfast, we will transfer to the airport for our flights home. Though our pilgrimage draws to a close, its blessings will last a lifetime and its graces are certain to draw us closer each day to the Lord.

All-Inclusive* price of \$2,495 from Washington-Dulles, New York-JFK & Boston-Logan; \$2,595 from Chicago-O'Hare, based on double occupancy. Single supplements are available for \$400. A \$300 deposit will be required to secure each reservation.

**Price includes round-trip airfare, first-class accommodations, breakfast and dinner daily, deluxe motor coach with expert tour director for the duration of the tour, all admission/entrance fees, all airport taxes and fuel surcharges, and all gratuities.*

Hurry! Space is limited!