

Summer
2022

Vision • You • DHS • Spirit

REALITY

~ Together in the Spirit we transform today's vision
into tomorrow's reality ~



1st Row Left To Right: Sisters Diane Gillis, Claire Roland Poulin,
Cécile LeBeau, Gisèle Brouillard

2nd Row Left to Right: Michael Henry Moulin, Paula Jean Despathy, Marie Jeannette
Bérubé, Patricia Rickis, Patricia Blais, Madeleine Grégoire and Caroline Devinez



75
Years
Sister Claire
Roland Poulin

70
Years
Sisters Cécile LeBeau and
Gisèle Brouillard

65
Years
Sisters Michael Henry
Moulin and Marie
Jeannette Bérubé
Absent from Photo:
Eleanor Baldoni, SB

60
Years
1st Row Left to Right: Sisters Diane Gillis,
Patricia Blais, Caroline Devinez
2nd Row Left to Right: Paula Jean
Despathy, Patricia Rickis,
Madeleine Grégoire

*Blessings and Gratitude to
One and All!*

25
Years
Donna Bertholf, Patty Gianatasio, Christine Ortalzi,
Carol Silva, Raylene Witwer



Office of Development/Advancement Daughters of the Holy Spirit
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We Remember and Give Thanks



Kathy Reid, DHS ASSOCIATE

January 18, 1935 - January 19, 2022

Kathy Reid, a member of the DHS Associates since 2001, was a tried and true Californian. She loved gardening and everything about nature. Her patio and home reflected Mother Nature's best creations.

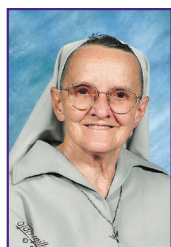
Kathy attended Notre Dame High School in Los Angeles, CA and went on to receive her college degree from UCLA in education. She was particularly interested in special education programs and dedicated many years of her professional life to that field. She was passionate about helping everyone learn to the maximum and set a strong example for her fellow educators during her term as director of special education in Merced County Schools.

Reid was a gentle and kind woman who always placed others' needs before her own. She had a profound love for her family, and her granddaughter Kathy writes: "Being her granddaughter was the greatest gift and loving her the greatest honor".

Kathy was introduced to the DHS Associate program and enjoyed every minute of her time with the group. She worked hard at planning and attending meetings even when that meant traveling to the East Coast. She loved company and welcomed all into her home with enthusiasm and warmth, making all feel at home instantly.

When Kathy became ill she moved to Oregon to be near her family. Unfortunately, Covid struck and Kathy's frail condition did not permit her to ward it off and she went home to the God she had served so faithfully and well throughout the years.

Kathy, all who knew you miss you but know that you remain present to us and to all you served so well. You are at peace as you continue to bring joy and love to us.



Cécile Germaine Cusson, DHS (Cécile de l'Eucharistie)

June 15, 1927 - March 19, 2022

Cécile Germaine Cusson was born in Putnam, CT where she met the Daughters of the Holy Spirit as a young child. She entered the Congregation after high school and made her first profession at the Holy Spirit Provincial House in Putnam in 1947.

Cécile started her career in the classroom in Fitchburg, MA but continued her studies in nursing and received her LPN from Holy Ghost Hospital in Cambridge, MA in October of 1955. She had always dreamed of being a missionary in another country, and realized that dream when she was missioned to Cameroon, Africa that same year. This began a 46 year career as a missionary who dedicated herself primarily to working with and assisting children who suffered from some kind of paralysis that prevented them from walking. Sister spent hours researching her field and working with experts at the local and international levels. She invented devices to help these children ambulate, to "rise from their palets and walk" as Jesus had done. She was respectfully referred to in Cameroon as 'the Mother of the Twisted Limbs'.

Another accomplishment on Cécile's part was the scribing and publication of hymns and prayers in the Mundang dialect, the first attempt to give this language a written form.

Sister Cécile returned to the USA in January of 2001. But, convinced that she was too young to retire, she went to Alabama in May of that same year to volunteer at a medical dispensary and as a private tutor.

In 2016 Cécile officially retired and returned to the Provincial House for her well-deserved R and R. In 2019 she transferred to St. Joseph Living Center in Windham, CT to become a member of that DHS community. It was here that she said her final 'yes' to her Lord and entered life eternal.

Cécile, you were the reflection of God's compassion and healing for so many. Rest in the peace and love of that same God as you continue to intercede for those in the most need.



The First Annual Bowl-a-thon at SJLC

February 23rd found the DHS community joined other residents at St. Joseph Living Center to exhibit their bowling skills and at the same time raise money to support the No Freeze Shelter in Willimantic, CT.

The activity was sponsored and organized by the Pastoral Care and Recreation Staff at SJLC who prepped the residents, set up the equipment and the bowling alleys, and encouraged families and friends to donate money in support of their family member or favorite bowler.

The contest itself was simple. For each pin felled by the resident bowler money from the donated funds would be contributed to the Shelter.

Needless to say the affair generated loads of enthusiasm among the DHS community whose charism is to 'help those in need'. Facial expressions, body language and words vividly expressed the fun spirit that prevailed among the residents.

The hallways at the facility are still buzzing with echoes of this successful event as talk of improvements for next year are also exchanged.

Donations to this worthy cause are accepted all year long and checks should be made payable to 'Windham Region No Freeze Shelter' and may be mailed or handed to Sr Michèle Bissaillon or other members of the Pastoral Care or Recreation Staff at SJLC.



Augmented Provincial Team

When Sister Jeannine Légère was elected to the General Leadership Team at the General Chapter last summer, the Provincial Team was reduced to two members, Sr. Gertrude Lanouette and Sr. Janet Lewis. Recently two new Councillors were added to bring the Province Leadership Team to 4 members. Welcome to Sisters Bonnie Morrow and Michèle Bisillon. From left to right in the photo we find: Sisters Janet Lewis, Gertrude Lanouette, Bonnie Morrow, and Michèle Bissaillon.



SBDHS New Regional Moderator

In a simple yet meaningful ceremony that included the participation and blessing bestowed by the assembly, song and scripture readings, Phyllis Viens, SBDHS, was missioned to serve as Moderator of the Region of the Americas for an initial period of 3 years. Viens replaces Claire Hétoux who has completed her 6 year mandate in that position.

The Secular Branch is an offshoot of the Congregation of the Daughters of the Holy Spirit and its members commit to vows adapted to a secular life style "at the heart of the world". They are guided by the foundation and charism of the mother congregation.

More information is available from Phyllis at phyllisviens@yahoo.com



Stopping By On Her Way Home

After completing her mandate as Superior General of the Congregation in 2021 Sister Anne-Marie Foucher spent a year studying in Canada. The US Provincial Council invited Anne-Marie to spend some time here before returning to her homeland in France.

During her week's stay Sister had the opportunity to participate in a gathering with the Sisters and to celebrate a themed liturgy and to enjoy a simple lunch of pizza and loads of warm and lively conversation.

The remaining days were dedicated to accepting invitation after invitation to visit individual sisters and/or communities and to get a feel for life in Connecticut in early summer.

On Saturday, June 25th the DHS Associates hosted a simple reception at the Administrative Center in Putnam for their international guest.

The photos of both events offer a glimpse into the fun and bonding times shared by all. Thank you for your visit and bon voyage, Sr. Anne-Marie.



Catholic Sisters' Week 2022

As a part of the international celebration of Catholic Sisters' Week the DHS gathered at our Center in Putnam and shared a luncheon featuring a traditional recipe from the native people's of the New England area: Three Sisters' Stew. The 'stick to your ribs' meal is a combination of beans, corn and squash and is served with freshly baked bread. Sr. Gertrude, who loves to dabble in cooking, succeeded the recipe to perfection to everyone's delight.

Dessert was provided by the Sisters in attendance and featured a huge variety of home made pies. The meal was preceded by shared prayer that focused on the importance

of traditions as we look towards the future that has already begun.

As part of the festivities the Sisters took up a collection to help feed the hungry through a contribution to Oxfam America.



DHS Associates Encourage Support For Ukraine



For several weeks in April and May the DHS Associates under the direction of Patricia Krudel and Diane Summa organized "Pray for Ukraine" rallies in the heart of Putnam, CT. Sisters, other Associates and friends joined the peaceful gatherings that invited one and all to pray for peace in Ukraine. At the end of April the group was joined by Daughters of the Holy Spirit from France who were in the USA for a business meeting. These rallies are in line with the charism /mission of the DHS whose purpose it is to collaborate with others in questions of justice and peace.



DHS Holds International Meeting

The Daughters of the Holy Spirit have a tradition of holding an annual international meeting to evaluate progress made on achieving the goals and objectives set at their last General Chapter, the official governing body of the Congregation that meets every 6 years in Brittany, France, the founding center of the 316 year old congregation. This year's international meeting was scheduled to take place in Putnam, CT, but because of travel restriction imposed by Covid and other world situations, the Council of the Congregation meeting was executed via ZOOM. Thanks to this media Council members from all countries where the DHS are located were able to participate in this 6 day tête à tête without leaving their homelands.

Three members of the General Team did make the trip to the USA and had the chance to visit all communities of DHS. They returned to France just in time to start the international meeting. The wonders of modern technology come to the rescue once again. The photo shows the visiting team members with the USA provincial team.



From Our Director's Desk

Dear Friends,

It is always a pleasure for me to sit and chat with you for a few minutes about the wonderful work we are doing together to assist and accompany our Sisters spiritually, in morale building and at the financial level. Yes, we are partners and colleagues and collaborators in lending our gifts, our abilities and our appreciation to the DHS who made and continue to make a huge impact on our lives and in the choices we have made.

Whether the Sisters live in a large community, such as St. Joseph Living Center, a smaller community as in All Hallows in Moosup or in senior housing such as Ella Grasso Gardens or in individual apartments that meet their current needs, they all are grateful to YOU for your ongoing assistance and attention to them. Each Sister remembers her former students, colleagues and parishioners fondly and with gratitude. YOU are in their daily prayers and in the depths of their hearts. As they helped to shape your lives, so did YOU contribute to their personal and professional growth. Therein lies the permanent bond that has kept us united to this day and, we believe, will do so long into the future.

Thank you sincerely for being there for us in so many ways.

Our 2022 Annual Drive has brought us nearly halfway to our goal of \$80,000. We know YOU will come through for us once again by the end of December.

To paraphrase St. Paul: Each time I think of YOU I praise our God. You indeed are the personification of divine love, goodness and kindness.

May that same loving true God continue to bless YOU and YOURS so that all you do and say and become work unto good for humankind.

Gratefully in the Spirit of all that is good,

Françoise G. Gauthier, PhD
Development Director
DHS/USA

~ Together in the Spirit we transform today's
vision into tomorrow's reality ~



About the cover Jubilee 2022...

On Sunday, June 5th, 2022, 17 Daughters of the Holy Spirit, Consecrated Seculars and Associates were honored for their 985 total years of service. The day featured a corsage pinning event early in the day followed by a celebratory liturgy at St. Joseph's Church in Willimantic, CT at 2:00 pm. It was most appropriate that the jubilee coincided with Pentecost, the official feast day of the congregation. The main celebrant was Fr. Laurence LaPointe, long time friend of the DHS and the homily was offered by Fr. Edward Dempsey. The theme "Alive in the Spirit" was woven throughout the ceremony that included specially chosen offertory gifts and the renewal of vows and covenants by all attending members of the DHS Family. Music was provided by Tom Gouin and Patty Johnson. The traditional profession song "O Jour le Plus Beau de ma Vie" (O Most Beautiful Day of my Life) brought the liturgical celebration to a close, and honorees and guests made their way to the church hall for welcomed refreshments and abundant sharing of conversation and kodak moments. Our Jubilarians are grateful to all who made this day so meaningful and special for them.