



SISTERS OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE of Kentucky
 ST. ANNE PROVINCE CENTER
 DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
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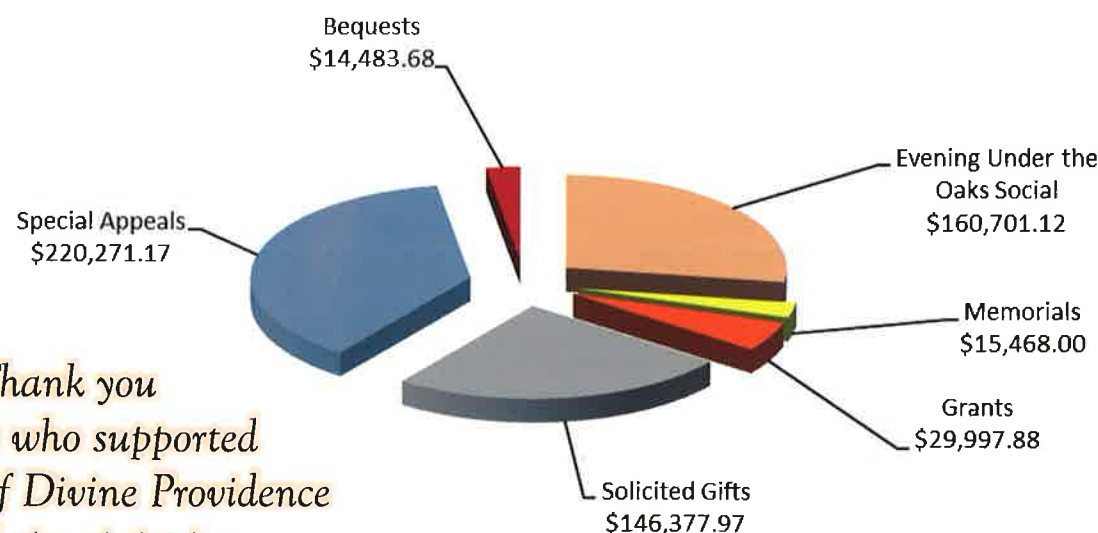
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Providence Moments

A Newsletter of the Congregation of Divine Providence, Melbourne, KY February, 2017

Meet our Newly Professed, Sr. Mary Florence Anyabuonwu (Sr. Flo)



Thank you
 to those who supported
 the Sisters of Divine Providence
 and their ministries
 in the Fiscal Year 2016!

For a listing of the individual donors who remembered the Sisters between Jan. 1, 2016 and Dec. 31, 2016, please visit the Sisters' website, cdpkentucky.org and click on **Ministry & Missions** at top, then **Development**. See **Annual Report**.

And now... check us out on Facebook! [Sisters of Divine Providence, Melbourne, Kentucky](https://www.facebook.com/SistersofDivineProvidence)

"I abandon myself to Providence". With these words, Marguerite LeComte became the first Sister of Divine Providence. It was January 14, 1762. For 53 "years of happiness", Sr. Marguerite taught children in the poor hamlets of France always relying on Divine Providence to provide for her needs and the needs of the children. On January 14, 2017, 255 years later, Sr. Mary Florence Anyabuonwu abandoned herself to Providence and pronounced vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience as a Sister of Divine Providence during a liturgy rich with African drumming and dance and sacred song. Guests at the following reception tasted African as well as American foods and the song and dance continued. Friends, colleagues and Sisters wished Sr. Flo many "years of happiness".

Sr. Mary Florence is originally from Nigeria. She came to the United States to attend Berea College. There she felt the first stirrings of a call to join the Sisters of Divine Providence. An immigrant herself, Sr. Flo eagerly ministers as a case worker serving refugees through Catholic Social Services in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

CDP Missions

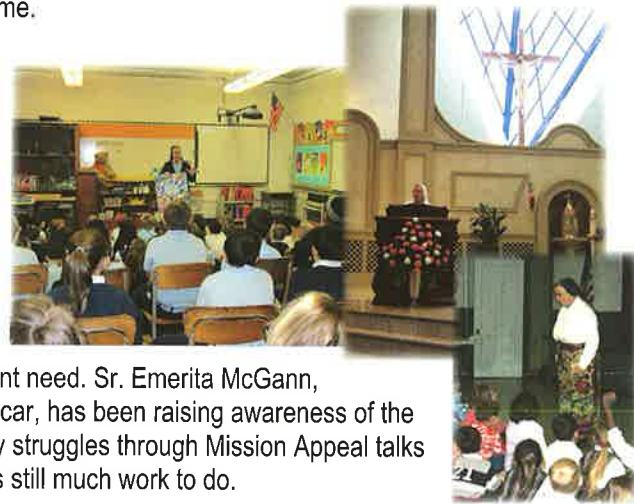
Madagascar



In 1950, the first Sisters of Divine Providence began ministry in Madagascar. This was both the fulfillment of a promise made in thanksgiving for the protection of the motherhouse during WWII and a response to Pope Pius XI's call to the universal mission of the Church. Today there are 114 Sisters in Madagascar. They serve in 21 communities. Most live and work in the north of the island. They also serve in Moroni, in the neighboring Comoros Islands, Ivory Coast and Ecuador.

In Madagascar, the 9th poorest country in the world, the Sisters teach, work with street children, resettle homeless families, provide centers for women's development, care for lepers and children with handicaps, visit the imprisoned, staff dispensaries, and do pastoral work in parishes. They have a special concern for the protection of the environment of their island home.

The Sisters in the United States, along with friends and benefactors, support the work of the Sisters in Madagascar. The funds from the "Dimes Project" continue to drill wells and build schools in the poorest villages. Education of the youngest Malagasy Sisters along with the nine novices and nine postulants is an urgent need. Sr. Emerita McGann, former missionary in Madagascar, has been raising awareness of the special needs and the ordinary struggles through Mission Appeal talks for nearly forty years. There is still much work to do.



Ghana, Ecuador, Appalachia Support



From 1983 to 2016, Sisters from the United States Province ministered in Ecuador, South America. Sisters Regina Marie Baker and Liz Wehri led the way. After 33 years as a missionary, Sr. Liz Wehri returned to the U.S. in 2016. She was the last from this Province to serve there. Sisters from France, Madagascar and Ecuador continue the work.

In 1988, Sisters Agnes Clare Kramer, Ellen Marie Eckerle and Marilene Cullen arrived in Ghana, West Africa. Other Sisters followed, and in 1996, Sr. M. Theresa Bowman, was the last to leave. A dedicated and

ever growing group of Ghanaian Associates of Divine Providence continue the spirit and works of Providence.

Shortly after the first Sisters arrived in Kentucky, they responded to the needs of the poor in Appalachia. Though they no longer teach in 2 to 4 room schools or in boarding schools or serve in small hospitals, the Sisters are still in the mountains. They meet the ever changing needs of the people there.



The Sisters of Divine Providence in Ministry Today

Currently there are 99 Sisters in the American Province of the Congregation of Divine Providence, Kentucky. The Sisters are engaged in varied levels of education, health care, social service, peace and justice, retreat work, parish programs, spiritual direction, and ministry to the elderly and those who feel excluded. Our retired Sisters engage in a ministry of prayer at Holy Family Home and in the Health Care Facility.

- Sr. Giorgianna Abplanalp, *Convent Finance Office*
- Sr. Mary Florence Anyabuonwu, *Refugee Case Worker*
- Sr. Regina Marie Baker, *Archives, Teaches English to Immigrants*
- Sr. Susan Baumann, *CDP General Superior*
- Sr. Carolyn Marie Betsch, *Elementary Teacher*
- Sr. Mary Bezold, *Early Childhood Trainer/Consultant*
- Sr. Joan Marie Boberg, *Spiritual Care Coordinator*
- Sr. Mary Theresa Bowman, *Director of Spiritual and Social Activities*
- Sr. Janet Marie Bucher, *Parish Life Collaborator*
- Sr. Janet Carr, *Hospital Chaplain*
- Sr. Mary Agnes Cashman, *Elementary Teacher*
- Sr. Mary Duddey, *Outreach to Refugees*
- Sr. Ellen Marie Eckerle, *Ministry to the Elderly, Victims of Trafficking*
- Sr. Theresa Falkenstein, *Preschool Teacher*
- Sr. Cynthia Fehrenbach, *Elementary Teacher*
- Sr. Mary Martha Garlich, *Ministry to Poor*
- Sr. Alice Gerdeman, *CDP Provincial*
- Sr. Dolores Ann Gohs, *Archivist*
- Sr. Paula Gohs, *Parish Director of Adult Faith Formation*
- Sr. Mary Carol Henggeler, *Secondary Teacher*
- Sr. Marilyn Hoffman, *Hospital Volunteer*
- Sr. Margaret Mary Jacobs, *Service to Parish*
- Sr. Mary Jennings, *Student*
- Sr. Leslie Keener, *Campus Minister*
- Sr. Stephanie Killeen, *Transportation/Hospitality*
- Sr. Madonna Marie Kling, *Pastoral Associate/Adult Formation*
- Sr. Bernadette Claire Kramer, *Convent Finance Office*
- Sr. Mary Kay Kramer, *Nurse Midwife/Family Nurse Practitioner*
- Sr. Francis Margaret Maag, *Ministry to the Elderly*
- Sr. Gladys Macke, *Ministries to the Poor and Elderly*
- Sr. M. Emerita McGann, *Development Director*
- Sr. Judith McMahan, *Teaches English to Immigrants*
- Sr. Jean Menke, *Asst. to Vocation Personnel, Substitute Teacher*
- Sr. Rose Ann Menke, *Companion to Associates, Teacher/Immigrants*
- Sr. Georgia Marie Messingschlager, *Substitute Teacher, Parish Ministry*
- Sr. Marie Rose Messingschlager, *Dioc. Director of Min. to Native Americans*
- Sr. Mary Joyce Moeller, *Basic Adult Education, Social Justice Ministry*
- Sr. Frances Moore, *Vicar for Religious of Diocese of Covington*
- Sr. Mary Luke Murphy, *Art Teacher*
- Sr. Juanita Nadicksbernd, *Assistant Animator at Holy Family Home*
- Sr. Claire Osburg, *Ministry to the Elderly*
- Sr. Ruth Parent, *Ministry to the Elderly, Teacher's Assistant*
- Sr. Barbara Patrick, *Director of El Centro de la Divina Providencia*
- Sr. Virginia Patrick, *Librarian, Hospitality at Jeanne d'Arc*
- Sr. Mary Echo Perry, *Serves Homeless, Day Care*
- Sr. Mary Armella Pietrowski, *Director of Religious Education*
- Sr. Judith M. Riese, *Finance Director at Jeanne d'Arc*
- Sr. Barbara Rohe, *CDP Provincial Councilor/Vicar/Secretary*
- Sr. Marlene Rust, *Archives Assistant*
- Sr. Jacqueline Marie Schack, *Receptionist/Sacristan at Jeanne d'Arc*
- Sr. Alice Marie Schmersal, *Pastoral Associate, Prison Ministry*
- Sr. Grace Ann Schmersal, *Ministry to Elderly and Poor*
- Sr. Janet Schneider, *CDP General Councilor, DRE/Pastoral Associate*
- Sr. M. Carleen Schumacher, *Director/Local Animator at Holy Family*
- Sr. Augusta Marie Seibert, *Hospital Chaplain*
- Sr. Margaret Stallmeyer, *Province Treasurer, Director of Tribunal of Dio. of Cov.*
- Sr. M. Lynn Stenken, *Director of Religious Education*
- Sr. Mary Fidelis Tracy, *Theology Instructor*
- Sr. Margaret Verhoff, *CDP Provincial Councilor, Asst. Animator at Holy Family*
- Sr. John Margaret Walsh, *Ministry to Community*
- Sr. Elizabeth Wehri, *Ministry to Hispanics*
- Sr. Helen Charles Wilke, *Parish Ministry*
- Sr. Virginia Ann Wolfzorn, *Parish Ministry*
- Sr. Lucy Zientek, *CDP Provincial Councilor, Pastoral Associate*

Ministry of Prayer

- Sr. Margaret Mary Austing
- Sr. Mary Edith Austing
- Sr. M. Karen Bahlmann
- Sr. Helen Louise Bartlett
- Sr. M. Immaculate Becker
- Sr. M. Bertha Berling
- Sr. M. Eileen Bertsch
- Sr. Mary Belle Borros
- Sr. Rita Brennan
- Sr. Martha Ellen Cheevers
- Sr. Judith Ann Coffman
- Sr. Marilene Cullen
- Sr. Mary Joan Dohmen
- Sr. Francis Anne Durbin
- Sr. Dorothy Ann Dzurissin
- Sr. Ruth Flynn
- Sr. Mary Thomas Harvey
- Sr. Catherine Mary Holtkamp
- Sr. Elizabeth Mary Houston
- Sr. Mary Jo Hummeldorf
- Sr. Mary Marcia Jehn
- Sr. Jane Frances Kaelin
- Sr. Elizabeth Kelemen
- Sr. Gertrude Ann Knipper
- Sr. Margaret Anne Kraemer
- Sr. Rosemary Lee
- Sr. Viola (Micki) Martin
- Sr. M. Mansueta Martineau
- Sr. Mary Ann Nadicksbernd
- Sr. Ruth Nadicksbernd
- Sr. Mary Theodore Nolan
- Sr. John Catherine Rafferty
- Sr. Rose Mary Rizzo
- Sr. Josephine Tipane
- Sr. Cecilia Clare Werle

Remembering our Sisters



+Sr. Mary Hope Schenk, October 30, 2016

Sr. Mary Hope was a professed member of the Congregation of Divine Providence for 64 years. Born in Cincinnati, OH in 1933 to George and Catherine Schenk, she made her first profession of vows in 1951 and professed her final vows in 1956. Sr. Mary Hope began her lifelong ministry as an elementary and special education teacher in 1951. She taught in schools in Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Maryland and Rhode Island until she retired in 2003. Since then she served at St. Anne Convent and Holy Family Home. Her smile, warmth and gentle kindness endeared her to those she taught, worked with and lived with over the years.

+Sr. Teresa Anne Kelemen, November 5, 2016

Sr. Teresa Anne Kelemen was a professed member of the Congregation of Divine Providence for 73 years. Born in Cumberland, KY in 1925 to Andrew and Anna Kelemen, she made her first profession of vows in 1943 and professed her final vows in 1948. Sr. Teresa Anne began her lifelong ministry as an elementary teacher and principal in 1945.

She taught in schools in Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Maryland and Rhode Island until she retired from the classroom in 2002. For four years after that she was involved in ministry to the aged and sick at Our Lady's Parish in Louisville, KY until she moved to Holy Family Home in 2006. She was especially dedicated to the children and families in Appalachia, where she was raised and where she spent the last 30 years of teaching.



+Sr. Elizabeth Anne Durbin, December 27, 2016

Sr. Elizabeth Anne was a professed member of the Congregation of Divine Providence for 68 years. Born in Pryse, Lee County, KY in 1929 to Pius and Effie Durbin, she made her first profession of vows in 1948 and professed her final vows in 1953. Sr. Elizabeth Anne began her lifelong ministry of food service and pastoral care in 1948 at Theological College in Washington DC where she served for 21 years; then at the Diocese of Covington Chancery for 34 years. She retired to Holy Family Home in 2003, where she devoted herself to the Sisters there and spent more time in prayer and reflection.

In Memory Of Our Deceased Sisters, Associates, and Loved Ones

Special thanks to those individuals listed below who requested, or whose families requested, that Sisters of Divine Providence receive memorials upon their passing, in the Fiscal Year 2016.

Sr. Mary of the Angels Becker, CDP
June 17, 2016

Geraldine Frank, ACDP
January 30, 2016

Sr. Rose Magdalen Kramer, CDP
March 21, 2016

Sr. Elizabeth Anne Durbin, CDP
December 27, 2016

Dr. Raymond Hayden, MD
April 5, 2016

Kevin Moloney
December 8, 2016

Sr. Mary Henry Dziadosz, CDP
February 26, 2016

Louise Huber
January 5, 2016

Sr. Mary Hope Schenk, CDP
October 30, 2016

Sr. Teresa Anne Kelemen, CDP
November 5, 2016

Dolores See, ACDP
November 21, 2016

Sr. Agnes Clare Kramer, CDP
March 7, 2016

Theodore P. Zientek
February 9, 2016



and Ministries

Jeanne d'Arc Residence, Manhattan, NY

From its humble beginnings in 1762, women and young girls have been at the heart of Congregation of Divine Providence ministries. In 1898, nine years after coming to the U.S., the Sisters accepted the challenge of ministry to immigrant women, mostly from France, in New York. As times changed so did the residents of Jeanne d'Arc. Thousands of



women of all cultures and creeds have been welcomed over the last 119 years.

Today 140 women from 40 countries find a safe and affordable home at Jeanne d'Arc Residence. Many are immigrants but not all. About half of the young women are students. Others are beginning careers in the competitive bustle of New York City. The Sisters welcome them, provide opportunities for spiritual development, and celebrate the rich cultural heritage each brings. The Sisters' gentle presence, prayer, and respect for each woman sets the tone of the house.

El Centro de la Divina Providencia, Covington, KY



In 2008, the General Chapter, highest legislative meeting of the congregation, urged each Province "to reinforce or begin a significant ministry to today's excluded people." The Sisters in the United States decided to focus on immigrants and in June 2010, El Centro de la Divina Providencia opened its doors. The center provides one-on-one lessons in English allowing adult immigrants to attend classes around work and family schedules. Volunteer teachers also provide basic life skills, an understanding of U.S. culture, translation, and referrals to appropriate agencies as needed.



Chapel News

New Chapel in Health Care Center

In November, the automatic doors of the new Resurrection Chapel in the Health Care Center of Holy Family swung open to the delight of the Sister residents. Bright, warm, quiet and serene, the chapel provides ample space for wheelchairs and walkers. Comfortable chairs invite Sisters to community and personal prayer time. Multiple windows showcase the beauty of God's creation in all seasons. Heartfelt thanks and gratitude to our benefactors. You are in our prayers.



Special thanks to Joe Sieve for building the beautiful altar!



When Holy Family Home was built in 1957, Immaculate Conception Chapel was state of the art. Sixty years later there is need for refreshing. Updated sound systems, flooring, furniture, and paint are a must. Some restructuring of the sanctuary area to make it easier for



Renovations begin in the Chapel of Holy Family Home

the Sisters and Chaplains to have access to the altar area and lector at Mass promise to enhance daily liturgy as well as community and private prayer. Change will come soon.



Jeanne d'Arc Residence Chapel in NY gets a new look

Making the chapel a welcoming place of reflection and prayer for the young women residents of Jeanne d'Arc was the goal. Clean, soft colors, more comfortable chairs that can be grouped for community prayers on special occasions or set apart for private moments, a space for liturgy and devotion brought the goal to reality. Sisters and residents appreciate the sacred space.



Newsworthy

On October 25, 1866, Sisters of Divine Providence from St. Jean de Bassel, France, stepped onto the soil of the United States for the first time. Mother St. Andrew and Sr. Alphonsa arrived in Galveston, Texas to teach children. More Sisters came and schools thrived. Twenty years later the separate Congregation of Divine Providence of Texas was formed. Three years later, in 1889, three Sisters of Divine Providence from St. Jean de Bassel, France, Sisters M. Chantal, M. Camille and M. Lucy, arrived in Covington, KY. They, too, came to teach the children. More Sisters came and schools thrived. This group became the Congregation of Divine Providence of Melbourne, KY.

Sisters Together



This December, Sr. Joyce Detzel, CDP of Texas, was the guest presenter at the CDPs of Kentucky's Assembly. Sr. Joyce shared stories of "our" first Sisters – their hardships and joys and especially their faith and dedication. To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of CDPs in the United States, the Texas Sisters and the Kentucky Sisters visited with each other, via Skype. More stories were shared. Connections made over the years were remembered and revitalized. Then, together we prayed the Act of Abandonment to Divine Providence, a prayer given to us by our founder, Blessed Jean Martin Moye. We know that we are truly Sisters, in different congregations now, but nevertheless connected by our roots and spirit.

All Are Welcome



Refugees, Immigrants, Muslims... All God's People – Welcome Here. You will find this sign on the doors of St. Anne's — both Holy Family Home and the Province Center. The first Sisters of Divine Providence in France became refugees during the French Revolution. Blessed John Martin Moye died in Trier, Germany where he lived in exile. Immigrant children were some of the first students of the Sisters in the U.S. Sisters have served in Jeanne d'Arc Residence in New York since 1896. It was started to care for and protect immigrant women. In more recent years the Sisters have worked with Asian, Latin American, Middle Eastern, and African refugees and immigrants.

The Constitutions, the document that guides the Sisters' lives, says, "apostolic charity impels us to works of mercy". Events in our neighborhoods, country and world impel everyone to act with mercy and caring. The signs on our doors are a reminder to the Sisters and everyone who comes through these doors that love and caring must include all God's children.



Thank you, Hasbro, Inc.!



In 1998, the Sisters of Divine Providence, Kentucky began a special partnership with HASBRO, INC. in Pawtucket, RI, providing toys and games for the Sisters to distribute to families in impoverished areas of Appalachia and inner cities/rural areas of Northern Kentucky, West Virginia, Ohio, Tennessee, etc. The Hasbro Christmas Toy Program has changed many lives; parents have the joy of giving; children have the excitement in receiving; and Sisters of Divine Providence have the privilege to thank Karen Davis and the Hasbro Community Relations Staff for making the Hasbro/CDP Christmas Toy Program a success for all.

