



Vocation and Mission Engagement

E-NEWSLETTER OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF SAINT ELIZABETH
OFFICE OF VOCATION AND MISSION ENGAGEMENT

Volume 1 # 1 - 2021

Welcome to the first edition of the Newsletter published by the “Office of Vocation and Mission Engagement” of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth. This Newsletter replaces the former newsletter “InFormation – Vocation SCNJ” which previously was published by the Office of Vocations. In addition, it also replaces the monthly newsletter which was published by the Associate office.

The newly developed office of Vocation and Mission Engagement is now in full swing with the addition of Shannon Hoffman. Shannon who joined the Office in February of 2021 and has spent the past few weeks learning about the Associate Program. This office embodies the coming together of the Vocation Office and the Associate Office with the added component of outreach to the poor.

The decision to merge these offices was made by our General Superior, Sister Maureen Shaughnessy and the Council to strengthen our outreach of the Charism of Charity. Rosemary Carroll, SA and Maryanne Tracey, SC designed the office and the job description to reflect this new endeavor.

Shannon and Sister Maryanne have spent the past few weeks introducing themselves to the Associates via ZOOM. In addition, they have had committee meetings, prayer services and designed a retreat to be offered in April for the Associates. Recently, they have taken part in a ZOOM meeting with the Vocation Directors of the Newark and Paterson Dioceses with the purpose of planning programs for those interested in a Religious Vocation.

The biggest project that they have done, to date, is the Food Collection to honor “Sisters” during National Catholic Sisters Week, March 8 - 14, 2021. This project was a huge success and had the participation of Sister of Charity Employees, Seton Associates, Sisters of Charity, and our Sponsored Ministries. Other outreach programs are: Monthly Sandwich making, and distribution of 20,000 socks to some of our ministries who serve people who are in need of assistance. In the near future, look for a sock project and support for a New Food Bank being created with the help of our Associates who are a part of the Navajo Nation in New Mexico.

As you can see the New Office has taken off and we are delighted to be in contact with the Seton Associates and reaching out to those who are in need. Religious vocations continue to be an ongoing endeavor of the office.

For those of you who do not know Shannon please see a short bio about her.

Shannon Hoffman and Sister Maryanne Tracey
Co-Directors of the Office of Vocation and
Mission Engagement



My name is Shannon-Cathleen Hoffman, and I am the new Co-Director for the Office of Vocation and Mission Engagement. I am a lifelong resident of Hudson County and I currently reside in Bayonne, NJ with my dog Clover. Although I am new to this position, I am not a stranger to the Sisters of Charity. I graduated from Saint Elizabeth University in 2016 with a bachelor's degree in Theology. While I was at the University, I volunteered at the Motherhouse and truly enjoyed spending time with the Sisters. I was given opportunities to go on service trips on Memorial Day weekend at Maris Stella and also to the House of Charity in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Sisters of Charity live out the Vincentian charism every day in their works and ministries. I hope to do the same through the Office of Vocation and Mission Engagement. I am excited to embark on this journey with Sisters and Seton Associates. I am looking forward to getting to know all of you. May the Spirit of Vincent, Louise, Elizabeth and Mother Xavier continue to inspire us to see and respond to the needs of others through this new office.

Golden Opportunities . . .

Sandwich Ministry

Every 3rd Monday of the month, the Office of Vocation and Mission Engagement will be delivering sandwiches to Our Lady of Peace Parish in New Providence. We are looking for volunteers to make sandwiches to expand this ministry. For information or to volunteer please contact Shannon at 973.290.5336 or shoffman@scnj.org.



Volunteer Drivers are needed for the new Sandwich Ministry in the Convent Station Area. The third Monday of every month, in the morning. For information and to volunteer please contact Shannon at 973.290.5336 or shoffman@scnj.org

Quilting - Starting in September, Sister Patricia Reynolds, SC, who is an expert quilter, will be making quilts for people who are homeless. If any Seton Associate is interested in joining her in this project, sewing machines will be provided. This will be held in the Motherhouse. Please contact Maryellen Whritenour if you are interested at 973.290.5446 or mwhritenour@scnj.org

YOUNG ADULT PRAYER GROUP

APRIL 11, 2021 AT 10:00AM EST

Join us for a very enriching and inspirational Sunday morning!

Meeting ID: 936 2978 7118

Passcode: 8G2NrC

Any Questions please contact

Sister Maryanne Tracey, SC

973-290-5325

As part of the celebration for *Catholic Sisters Week*, March 8th - 14th Associates, Employees of the Sisters of Charity, Sisters, and Sister of Charity ministries collected food and other necessities as well as monetary donations, to assist those who suffer from food insecurity, from New Jersey to the Navajo Nation. Shown below are some of our partners in ministry, as they work to fulfill the needs of the surrounding communities.



Towards Boundless Charity - The young women at the Academy of Saint Elizabeth collected food to assist others in need.



Students at Immaculate Conception High School in Montclair pause for a rest during their food drive.



Under the leadership of Sister Patricia Mennor, SC, St. Joseph's University Medical Center, Paterson, Emergency Room staff, prepare to deliver the supplies that they collected to the Father English Food Pantry in Paterson.



Sister Beverly Ornes, SC drops off her supply of food at Saint Michael's Food Pantry in Newark.

Josephine's Place in Elizabeth collected food and other necessities to distribute to area residents in need.





Members of the Seton Associate Convent group deliver their food to Sister Maryanne Tracey, SC to be delivered to those in need at Saint Elizabeth University.



Wendy Relation, employee of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth drops off her donations to be delivered to Saint Elizabeth University.



Trinitas Employees generously donated two carloads of milk, fresh fruits and vegetables and a significant amount of money! Sisters Prudentia Osuji, SC Director of Pastoral Care, and Maureen Dunne, SC transported the donations to St. Joseph's Social Service Center for immediate distribution to the people of Elizabeth! Thank you, Sister Rosemary Moynihan, SC for your leadership in this project.



Catholic Charities, Diocese of Paterson, under the leadership of Sister Maureen Sullivan, SC packed bags for distribution to area residents.



Seton Associates, Julia Gorman of Arizona and Evelyn Vanchee of Navajo, New Mexico deliver food to the local food pantry.

Seton Associate, Jean Semler, organized a food drive along with her friends, responding to the needs of the people serviced by the Delaware Valley Food Pantry in Lambertville, NJ. Jean says, "Thank you for the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the people in our local community."

To learn more visit www.SCNJ.org

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THE OFFICE OF VOCATION AND MISSION
ENGAGEMENT IS SPONSORING

COME HOLY SPIRIT

Retreat leader - Sister Anita Constance, SC

**APRIL 24, 2021 | 10 AM - 1 PM
VIRTUAL RETREAT (INFORMATION WILL
BE SENT OUT TO THOSE WHO REGISTER)**

Among the mystics of past ages, it was not uncommon for God's Holy Spirit to be referred to as God's kiss. It could be said that on the feast of Pentecost, we celebrate the grace of being filled with the Spirit and, thereby, of being kissed by God. What does this mean for us in our hearts? How can we experience that "kiss?"

What are the ways we already have?

**RSVP required by 4/22/21. If interested, please contact
Sr. Maryanne Tracey - mtracey@scnj.org/973-290-5325 or
Shannon Hoffman - shoffman@scnj.org/973-290-5336**