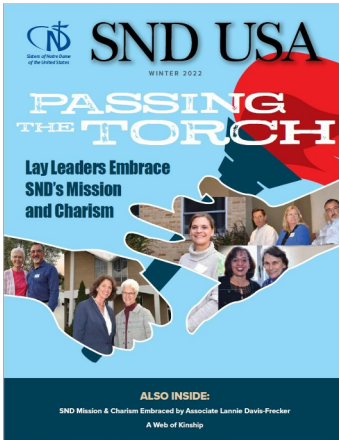




NATIONAL SPONSORSHIP AND NETWORK OFFICE

Network Notes



From the Desk of Dr. Laura Koehl

Happy New Year! it is a pleasure to present our January newsletter to you, providing news and updates from the NSNO and our SND USA network of ministries. We are especially excited to announce the launch of our new website providing information about the NSNO and our ministries. Please go to <https://nsno.sndusa.org/> to learn more.

It was great to see so many of our ministry leaders and board chairs at our November leadership meeting. Most importantly, the spirit of collaboration around the SND mission was uplifting and inspiring. We are pleased to share a brief report on that event and some photos (page 3) capturing so many of our leaders enjoying an in person meeting.

We are also pleased to announce that NSNO is featured in the winter 2022 *SND USA* magazine. The article presents the history of our office as well as wonderful insights from ministry leaders past and present as we continue to partner with the sisters in advancing the SND mission in our ministries. Look for this edition in your mailbox next month. It can also be viewed on the SND website beginning February 7 at sndusa.org.

I hope that in spite of the recent COVID surge, 2022 has gotten off to a great start for each of you. Thank you for all the good work that you have done and continue to do in leading our ministries in the SND USA network. You have risen to so many challenges in this past year, and I pray you feel affirmed in all you do to bring God's goodness to your communities and our world. I know how busy everyone is and encourage you to take time to reflect and recharge as we all look to the challenges and opportunities of the coming year. We are all in this network together serving a common purpose of goodwill. May that be a source of strength and comfort to all.

Gratefully,

Laura Koehl, Ed.D.



National Sponsorship and Network Office

Laura Koehl
Executive Director
Office: 859.392.8100
Mobile: 859.468.3324

Lisa Fredrickson
Programs and Services Manager
Office: 440.279.1102
Mobile: 216.219.8294

Website: <https://nsno.sndusa.org>

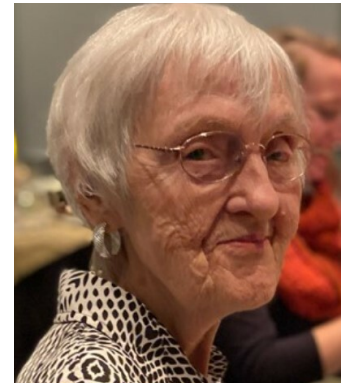
Winter 2022

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE



Congratulations to **St. Claire HealthCare** (Morehead, KY) for being awarded the Kentucky Hospital Association's first annual Grassroots Advocacy Leadership Award. This award recognizes the St. Claire team for staying in contact with elected officials to help them understand how different pieces of legislation would impact hospitals across the state and the thousands of healthcare workers working tirelessly to care for their neighbors. St. Claire HealthCare President/CEO Don Lloyd (left) receives the award from association member Jim Musser.

St. Claire HealthCare (Morehead, KY) and the Sisters of Notre Dame bestowed the inaugural St. Claire Signature Award to Susie Halbleib, RN (pictured right) for dedicating her life to the service of humanity. "Susie, we are honoring you, one of our heroines, for all you have done for the people of Morehead, the surrounding counties, and especially for what you mean to St. Claire HealthCare and to the Sisters of Notre Dame," said Sr. Mary Joell Overman, SND. Susie began her nursing career by traveling to Clay County in 1947 where she met Dr. Claire Louise Caudill, founder of St. Claire. Susie and Dr. Louise ultimately joined forces and traveled back to Dr. Louise's hometown of Morehead to establish their first medical practice.



Congratulations to **La Reina High School & Middle School** (Thousand Oaks, CA) for being voted 2021 Best Private School in Ventura County in the *Ventura County Star Reader's* Reader's Choice Awards! The Reader's Choice Awards celebrate and recognize the best the community of Ventura County has to offer.

Administrators thanked the community for their votes and confidence and for "recognizing that your daughter's future is our focus."



Distinguished School

Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School (Sarasota, FL) is recognized as an Apple Distinguished School for 2021-2024 for actively implementing Apple tools across the curriculum. Apple Distinguished Schools are centers of innovation, leadership, and educational excellence. They use Apple technology to connect students to the world, fuel creativity, deepen collaboration, and make learning personal. Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School is committed to creating an innovative and compelling learning environment that engages students and provides tangible evidence of academic achievement. From math and science to fine arts and world languages, teachers and students utilize iPad apps to prepare students for real-world experiences.

Please share excellence in your ministry by contacting us at nsno@sndusa.org.

November Leadership Meeting

Over 35 leaders gathered -- in person! -- in November for the sponsored ministry leadership meeting in Chardon, OH. It was a very dynamic and uplifting gathering of so many dedicated leaders. Those in attendance included the National Ministry Corporation (NMC) Board and members of the Provincial Leadership Team. The agenda for the meeting included information and discussion on several topics including:

- SND Sponsorship -- addressing current and future realities
- SND USA structure -- Role of the NMC and NSNO
- Governance for mission and sustainability
- Lay leadership and SND legacy
- Mission integration assessment
- Marian reflection and prayer



Feedback from the meeting was very positive with attendees reporting high levels of satisfaction with the topics covered and meeting logistics. Special appreciation was given to the opportunity to build relationships and dialogue on important issues affecting their ministries.

We look forward to this annual gathering of ministry leaders and board chairs.

Mission Assessment

Authored by Sr. Joanne Keppler, the Assessment for Sponsored Ministries reviews five domains or characteristics necessary for Catholic identity and mission effectiveness with a ministry sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame. These domains are:

- Charism in Action
- Mission and Vision
- Leadership and Collaboration
- Transformative Education and Care
- Stewardship and Sustainability

The ultimate goal of the assessment is to promote the SND mission, Catholic identity and institutional viability in each of our ministries.

The assessment process enables a sponsored ministry to quantify, with evidence, its alignment with the intended goals. Through conversations and reflection that occurs as a ministry completes the assessment, it will affirm and confirm its practices as well as surface areas of potential growth or improvement. It is designed to support formation and continuous improvement.

SND USA National Sponsorship and Network Office Awards

Celebrate Excellence In Your Ministry

Recognize someone in your ministry through the SND National Sponsorship and Network Office's National Network Awards. This program is designed to formally recognize and celebrate the outstanding contributions of employees and/or volunteers in the SND Network for witness to the mission, vision and charism of the Sisters of Notre Dame.



- **Transformative Leadership Award** recognizes individuals who are catalysts for growth; inspire hearts; and transform lives of those with whom they minister.
- **Gospel Witness Award** recognizes those who reflect and nurture the Notre Dame charism, spirit and mission within their professional communities and among all they minister.
- **Father Bernard Overberg "Teacher of Teachers" Award** recognizes educators that demonstrate exceptional, inspirational impact on the formation and professional learning of teachers.

Nominations are now being accepted through March 31, and all nominations remain active for three years. Awardees will be announced on May 1.

For more information, a list of previous awardees and nomination forms, visit our website at nsno.sndusa.org/awards/.

The Distinguished Graduate Award (DGA) recognizes graduates who value their relationship with God; strive to live Gospel values in their daily lives; work to their ability and challenge themselves academically; and distinguish themselves in expressing God's goodness and provident care through service and outreach to others.

Since 1999, 1,136 students have been recognized with the DGA. A list of recipients can be found on our website.

Order forms can be found on our website at nsno.sndusa.org/awards/ and are due back with payment by April 1, 2022. Awardee names should be sent into the office by the end of May for inclusion in the DGA Book that is kept at the motherhouse in Rome.



March 6-9: National Leadership Conference for Catholic Schools, Naples Hilton Hotel, Naples FL; Keynote Speaker: General Martin E. Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 2011 to 2015

June 19-23: National Advancement Summer Institute for Catholic Schools; Boston Quincy Marriott Hotel, Boston, MA; Keynote Speaker: Sister Clare Fitzgerald, SSND

Visit www.partnersinmission.com for more information

**Partners
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Thank you to **Partners in Mission** for sponsoring
Network Notes!

CCCHS CELEBRATES NEW CHAPEL

Story submitted by Srs. Kathleen McCafferty and Mary Dion Horrigan

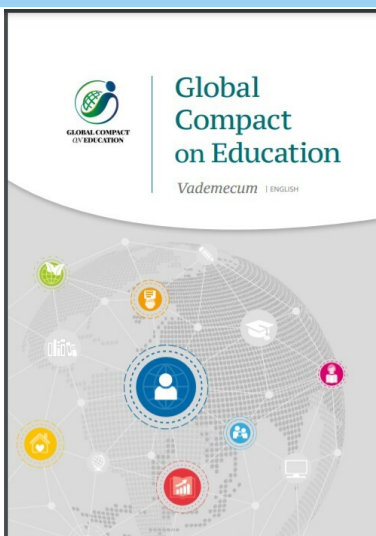
Last month, **Clearwater Central Catholic High School** (Clearwater, FL) assembled for the consecration of the altar and blessing of its new chapel named in honor of St. Julie Billiart, spiritual mother of the Sisters of Notre Dame. Bishop Gregory Parkes, bishop of St. Petersburg, presided at the ceremony. Also in attendance were eight other priests including Reverend Aiden Foyne, past president of CCC, Sisters of Notre Dame, major donors of the "Ignite Tomorrow, Today" capital campaign and past and present administrators and teachers.



In expanding on naming the chapel after St. Julie Billiart, Dr. John Venturella, CCCHS President, explained that the spirituality of the sisters has become the spirituality of CCC. "St. Julie's spirituality is a spirituality worthy of our adoption and certainly one worth planting in the hearts of our students and our CCC community. She walks with us always directing us toward God and His will," he continued. "Today the Sisters of Notre Dame continue to serve CCC through their prayers, as SND consultants at our school, as guest speakers in our classrooms, as board members, and much more," Venturella said.

"In so many ways we look around this campus and say, 'How good is the Good God.' He indeed has been so good to CCC," Venturella concluded.

SND Global Education: Cultivating a Culture of Encounter and Care



January 11 through 13, Sr. Mary Ann Culpert, SND Generalate Assistant General, hosted *SND Global Education: Cultivating a Culture of Encounter and Care*. Attendees included representatives from educational ministries sponsored by SND in seven countries. SND USA was represented by Lannie Davis Frecker (Julie Billiart Schools, OH); Kim Grilliot (NDA Toledo, OH); Laura Koehl (NSNO); and Jack VonHandorf (NDA Park Hills, KY).

The program focused on Pope Francis' Global Compact on Education and included a video presentation from Pope Francis as well as an address by Archbishop Angelo Vincenzo Zani, Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education. Attendees shared information about transformative practices at their schools and discussed ways that our ministries can respond to the Pope's call for a global alliance that forms mature individuals dedicated to positive change.

GOSPEL WITNESS



St. Charles Community (Covington, KY) opened their Senior Resource Center (pictured left), which connects seniors with a variety of resources, promotes true partners in ministry with other area service providers and, through compassionate listening, education and collaboration, continues to live Jesus' gospel call. The center is providing emergency food and adaptive equipment, finding subsidized housing, and walking people through the different levels of care. It also connects and collaborates with many local agencies to find the best care. "We are committed to serving seniors in need through compassionate listening, education, and collaboration with community partners," said Nichole Smith, President/CEO, St. Charles Community. The Senior Resource Center is open Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4:30 pm, and all services are free.

RHSE -- Coming in June! The Rural Healthcare Student Experience pilot program is scheduled for June 19-24 at **St. Claire HealthCare** (Morehead, KY). This project was originally scheduled for June 2020 but postponed due to the pandemic. RHSE will bring together rising juniors and seniors from three SND sponsored high schools for five days to job shadow, perform community service and learn about the unique challenges in rural healthcare. RHSE will provide students with an invaluable experience serving people on the margins as well as the opportunity to share in fellowship with other SND and Kentucky school students. Visit nsno.sndusa.org/network/ for more information on criteria, deadlines, and required forms.



Sr. Kathleen Kneuveen is the **Prayer Sister** for **St. Mary's School** in Leipsic, OH, which is her hometown. Sr. Kathleen connects with the school by exchanging letters and interacting with the students and faculty. She also prays for them, works as a school tutor, helps with the Christmas program and the Gifts of Joy boxes, and so much more.

If your school would like to connect with a Prayer Sister, please contact Lisa Fredrickson at lfredrickson@sndusa.org.

EDUCATION FOR TRANSFORMATION



Outdoor learning delivers many benefits including recognizing God in the beauty around us. At **Lial Catholic School** (Whitehouse, OH) PreK-3 students have a dedicated space outside including a prayer garden, mud kitchen, sand and water play areas, and raised garden beds. Students explore, create and innovate in the natural setting of God's good

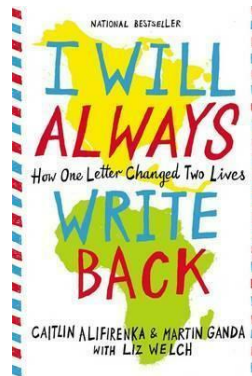
School Book Clubs

WHY WE'RE CATHOLIC



OUR REASONS FOR FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE
TRENT HORN

The Parent Book Club at **Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School** (Sarasota, FL) discussed *Why We're Catholic: Our Reasons for Faith, Hope, and Love* by Trent Horn. Trent's book assembles the clearest, friendliest, most helpful answers that he learned to give to people who questioned the reason for his faith. Beginning with how to know reality and ending with the hope of eternal life, this book helps skeptics and seekers, or Catholics who want to firm up their faith, understand the evidence that bolsters and brings joy to the belief in Catholicism. The discussions at the parent book club were lively and interesting.



Students at **Notre Dame Academy** (Park Hills, KY) welcomed Caitlin Alfirenka, (pictured above) author of *I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives* for this year's Common Reader Day. This is the astonishing story about Caitlin, a typical teenage girl, and Martin, a teenage boy in poverty in Zimbabwe, writing to each other explaining the differences in their culture and everyday life. Through their letters to each other, the two become the best of friends, and Caitlin and her family make life better for Martin.

Each year, Notre Dame Academy hosts Common Reader Day when students, faculty, staff and administrators read the same book during the summer. The school comes together for a day of activities surrounding the book and its theme.

Calendar

1/30-2/5

Catholic Schools Week

3/8-3/14

Catholic Sisters Week

3/25

Feast of the Annunciation

3/31

Network Award
Submissions Due

4/8

Feast of St. Julie

4/15

DGA Orders Due

5/1

Network Award
Recipients Announced

5/31

DGA Recipient Names
Due

6/19-6/24

RHSE

Reflecting God's Goodness and Provident Care

Fourth graders at **St. Columban School** (Loveland, OH) painted prayer rocks and shared stories about the family and friends for whom they were praying. The students then presented their loved ones with their prayer rocks.



Transitional kindergarten students at **Notre Dame Elementary School** (Los Angeles, CA) celebrated all the acts of kindness witnessed in the classroom with a unicorn party. Students were overheard saying kind words when they thought no one was listening and taking care of their school when they thought no one was watching.



Students at **St. Richard School** (Swanton, OH) helped spread joy and kindness by making fall holiday decorations for local nursing homes. St. Richard School believes that service projects should be hands on for the students and that they should be 100 percent involved and giving of their time and talents to better serve others.