



# 125th Celebration

March 25, 2026 marked the closing of our year-long 125th Celebration of Making God's Love Present Everywhere. After beginning the year with a special Mass and dinner celebration, MSC Sisters continued with monthly stories of how our missions in several countries began. Thank you to the many people who read these stories with us and prayed for our continued good works.

If you missed these stories, you may read them all at [www.mscreading.org/category/our-stories/](http://www.mscreading.org/category/our-stories/).



## Jubilee Celebrations



### Sr. Agnes Flatley, 75

Sister Agnes grew up devoted to her siblings. With youthful, selfless generosity, she entered the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (MSC) and, in August of 1956, professed vows of consecrated Obedience, Chastity and Poverty "forever." At that time, she taught the children of the growing, integrated Saint Joseph Parish School, Athens, GA with excellence and dedication. On weekends she

and the other teaching Sisters offered formation in the Catholic Faith in rural areas. Sister Agnes also taught, or served as primary school principal, at Holy Guardian Angels School, Reading, PA, Saint John the Baptist Parish School, Haycock and Saint Joseph Parish School, Limeport, PA.

With the adaptability of her missionary vocation, she also served the Congregation of MSC Sisters as a formation director and provincial councilor. Later, she became receptionist for a specialized unit at Sacred Heart Hospital, Allentown, PA. Afterward, and for 13 years, Sister Agnes ministered attentively to the Sick and Homebound and their families of Saint John the

Baptist Parish, Allentown. Presently, Sister Agnes resides at Saint Joseph Villa, Reading, PA with other retired MSC Sisters. Even in her mid-nineties, having been an MSC Sister for 75 years, she wears her characteristic winning smile and appears to have "not changed a bit!" She maintains lively correspondence and the most beautiful handwriting. Her fidelity to prayer and to community each day nurture that first call from her first Love, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, "Love, as I have loved you!"

### Sr. Annuntia Koller, 65

In her youth, Sister Anunitha's faith and opportunity seemed to have prepared her for missionary life. She recounts that the song "Home on the Range" was written about her beautiful home state of rural North Dakota! After completing High School by correspondence in three years while caring for her younger siblings, and then earning an Associate Degree in Education, she taught in a one-room schoolhouse until it was phased-out by the State. Afterward, and only when she was on her way to Reading, PA in 1959 to enter the Congregation, did she realize that her correspondence and acceptance had been with the Missionary Sisters of the MOST Sacred Heart of Jesus and not with the Cabrini Missionary Sisters! Regardless, Sister Annuntia professed vows of consecrated Obedience, Chasity and Poverty "forever" in August of 1966.

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To receive Connections in email format only,  
contact: [cwhitmoyer@mscreading.org](mailto:cwhitmoyer@mscreading.org)

# MISSION UPDATES

## Prayer Ministry

Prayer Ministry is an essential part of who we are as MSC Sisters. On a daily, weekly, and monthly basis our sisters and our mission advancement office use email communications to spread the word about people in need of prayer. These requests come from friends and family who email and call and from folks who use our social media platforms such as our website and Facebook page to reach out to us.



Because they are retired, our sisters who reside at St. Joseph Villa in Reading, PA have the added ability to devote more time to prayer and petitioning on behalf of others; their prayer ministry often includes several hours of each day.

Retired Sisters Annuntia, Lorraine, Maureen, Mary Ann, Mary, Sheila, Barbara, Agnes, Bernette, and Theresa for example, reflect that their love for the Sacred Heart of Jesus compels them to continue to serve others as best they can through what their MSC vocation now identifies as their main ministry: constant prayer for the world and for one another. †



# LAY MSC UPDATE

## You're Invited to Join Us!

Two of my favorite and fun days of each year are the MSC NUN RUN and MSC Octoberfest when we celebrate and support the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart. If you are part of the MSC family, it can be even more special if you also join as a Lay Missionary of the Most Sacred Heart. The Lay Missionaries are a group of women and men who are called to celebrate the love of Jesus for the world. We were founded more than 35 years ago by the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart and are now formally a branch of the International Chevalier Family. Jules Chevalier was the founder of the MSC Fathers and Brothers and the Spiritual Founder of The Daughters of Our Lady of Sacred Heart and The Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart.



If you feel called to be the Heart of God for the World, if you are drawn to compassion and mercy, and/or if you see God in all of creation, this may be the group for you. We range in age from 26-90 and live in various areas from Philly to the Poconos. Presently, we gather the first Saturday of every other month in areas such as Reading, Bethlehem, Nazareth, and the Poconos to share spirituality, prayer, formation, faith, food and laughter. Each year we conduct an extensive well-formed formation program which culminates in a commitment ceremony at our annual retreat when all members renew their commitment to be a Lay Missionary of the Sacred Heart.

We invite you to join us and to find out more about our community by contacting Lay Director Mary Ann McNally, LMSC at mamcnally702@gmail.com. †

## SWEEPSTAKES

**Congratulations to our Thanksgiving Calendar Sweepstakes Winners! Thank you to all you played! You helped raise more than \$14,000 for our retired MSC Sisters.**

Joseph Schuller; Kenneth Buckle; Joanne Wagner; Mary Cerino; Richard Colello; Nora Valovage; Sr. Maureen Kane; Jo Ann Corriere ; Robert Wrede; Nathan Hayduk; Theresa Zuber; Al Stryk; Jean DiFebo; Bruce Sommers; Sara Kane; Chuck McNichol; and Loretta Gaetani

## HEART OF GOD RAFFLE WINNER

**Congratulations to Al & Catherine Ciotto**

*Thank you to all who played our Heart of God Raffle! You helped us raise almost \$30,000 for the MSC Sisters and their mission to love with the Heart of Christ!*



**MISSIONARY SISTERS**  
of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

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# 2025 MSC SISTERS DONOR REPORT

The MSC Sisters express joyful gratitude for all who support our mission. Each of your gifts, whether time, energy, treasure or prayer supports our mission to be God's Heart for others in the United States Province and around the world. Your generosity also enables us to care for ourselves as we age. Thank you for sharing your resources with us. Your gifts make a positive difference every day!

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Then, and until 1970, she taught at Saint Henry School, Philadelphia, Incarnation School, Palos Heights, IL and Saint Peter School, Coplay, PA. During the following six years, Sister Annuntia served the local communities of MSC Sisters at Saint Michael Convent and Villa Saint Elizabeth in Reading, Saint Henry Convent, Philadelphia, and Our Lady of Hungary Convent, Northampton, PA as homemaker, helping to prepare meals. Having returned

to Saint Michael Convent, Reading, Sister Annuntia helped in the ministry of hospitality to visitors.

Whatever she did and whomever she served, Sister Annuntia devoted great care and dedication, faithful to what needed to be done. While her eyesight was good, she enjoyed doing jigsaw puzzles. Today, Sister Annuntia is very happily retired and living at Saint Joseph Villa, Reading with other retired Sisters where she can read to her heart's content and devote time to prayer. "Prayer," says Sister Annuntia, "is what I am created for!"



### Sr. Lorraine Molchanow, 65

Sr. Lorraine professed her final vows in August of 1966 while teaching first grade in Illinois at Incarnation Palos Heights School. Through 1977 her ministry included teaching and principal positions in Coopersburg, Philadelphia, Allentown, and then again in Illinois. In addition to serving as a Provincial Councillor, Sr. Lorraine also served as Director of Annunciation House of Prayer in Reading until 1989 after which she

became the Director of Initial formation at The Linckens Center in Reading. Sr. Lorraine also ministered in Northampton, PA as the DRE/Pastoral Associate at Our Lady of Hungary Parish until 1999. From that time until 2005 and again 2009-2024 she served as the Director for the Lay MSC Associate Program. As a member of the Provincial Council from 2005-2011, Sr. Lorraine ministered first as Provincial Treasurer and then as Provincial Superior. Sr. Lorraine's passion for communicating the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to all shines throughout her vocation and today through her prayer ministry as a resident of St. Joseph Villa.



### Sr. Theresa Molchanow, 65

In August of 1966 Sr. Theresa professed her final vows while she served as Maternity Nurse Supervisor at Good Samaritan Hospital in Pottsville, PA. From then until 1976 she experienced foreign ministry in Papua New Guinea. Returning to the U.S. Sr. Theresa then continued her education and worked as a nurse and a midwife in Norristown. In 1980 she became the Assistant Director of Novices and Superior Director

Novices at Linckens Center and the House Prayer in Reading. In 1985 Sr. Theresa moved to Parkersburg, VA to serve in Parish Ministry at St. Margaret Mary Parish returning to St. Michael in Reading four years later to become Vocation Director. From 1996-2004 she returned to international ministry first in Mexico City and then as a General Councillor in Sutri, Italy. Returning to the U.S. again in 2005, Sr. Theresa served as a member of the Motherhouse Pastoral Team, the Director of Formation, and the Director of the Lay MSC Program. Called again to Mexico City in 2009, Sr. Theresa ministered to the people of San Ramon Nonato Parish and served as the administrator of the Posada, a home for elderly women. When this ministry changed hands with another religious congregation in 2020 after 27 years of MSC Mission, Sr. Theresa returned home where her mission has become one of constant prayer and service to her fellow sisters and all with whom she comes in contact. †

*"When we cast our bread upon the water, we can presume that someone downstream whose face we may never see will benefit from our action." –Maya Angelou*

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## SAVE THE DATE



**MSC Oktoberfest**  
**October 11, 2026**  
**Reading Liederkrantz**  
**1:00 - 4:00pm**

Join us as we toast to another year of the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus' mission of love!

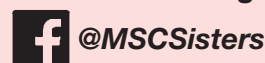
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# MISSION UPDATES

## Multicultural Mission in Lima

By Sr. Marie Clark, MSC

The Year 2025 is forever etched in my memory as an extended period of living and caring acceptance. From the moment of arrival until the final hour of departure, I experienced the joy of participating in an international MSC community composed of women from five different countries. Our language was Castellano, the Spanish of Perú, and our food was Peruvian, prepared by a young Peruvian chef who delighted in his work.



We began each day with Liturgy at 6:45 and were blessed to have four different MSC priests as celebrants. Every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday we had an hour of adoration before our evening meal at 6:30 which was followed by card or board games for those who chose to participate.

In the course of the year, I led English classes with 6 different Sisters. The first three months were intensive as Sisters prepared to leave for an international course in Manila.



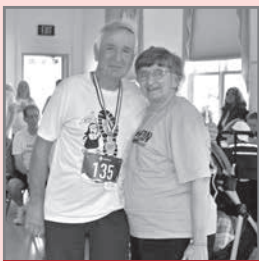
This was followed by four months of instruction with our novice Alicia from Guatemala before she left for mission in the jungle area of Perú. Finally, classes centered on three Peruvian Sisters: Maria Ester who during this time was appointed the Province Leader, Vilma who works high in the mountains, and Gina in the Dominican Republic. In between I had plenty of time to pray, read, rest and enjoy the beauty of the convent garden.

It was a quiet year but did include a few trips to the center of Lima and the joy of a retreat at a lovely spot outside the city. Every day was filled with joy and companionship, simple celebrations, and even the experience of grieving a Sister's passing and burial in a mausoleum. We enjoyed celebrations across town with the MSC men and a farewell luncheon on the Feast of the Three Kings with two of the Sisters who had recently returned from Manila.

As of January, I have been happy to be home, to take up familiar tasks in my community, and to participate in the parish life of St. Mary's in Kutztown. I look forward to 2027 and my 70th anniversary as an MSC. †

## TRIBUTES

### NUN RUN 2026



JOHN K.

*"Your MSC event remains one of my favorites with a challengeng course and great raffle afterwards."*

*John K.*

*"Always enjoy doing the 5K Run and seeing all of you! Well organized and hoping to ask you in 9 years to add a 90+ age group! Good Lord willing. Not as fast, but still running!"*

*Bruce C.*



BRUCE C.

## LOVE AT THE NUN RUN

We have a joyful update to our 2024 Fall/Winter Connections article in which we shared the news that two runners who met at our 2023 Nun Run, Liz Polley and Matt Bates, had announced their engagement at our 2024 MSC Oktoberfest. Imagine our excitement when on April 18 at our 2026 Nun Run they revealed to us the rapidly approaching date of their first child's birth! Yes!

May Baby Bates and Mom and Dad enjoy all the blessings possible. Welcome to the first Nun Run baby (that we know of) born to a lovely couple who met at our annual event!



## Flooding Incident In Cuvelai, Angola

Cuvelai experienced heavy rainfall for six consecutive days, from 18 to 24 February. The persistent downpour led to severe flooding in several areas, significantly affecting local communities. The intense rainfall caused water to enter many homes, including the sisters' house. Water seeped in between the walls and corrugated iron sheets eventually flooding the entire house.

As a result, the house sustained serious damage to the roof and interior walls. The sisters also lost personal belongings, including furniture and other household items. Although the material losses are considerable, we are deeply grateful that all the sisters are safe.

At present, they are living in very difficult and vulnerable conditions. If the heavy rains continue, they may be forced to seek temporary accommodation elsewhere until the weather improves. The house has suffered significant structural damage and will require major repairs, or complete reconstruction, to restore safe and dignified living conditions.



This prolonged weather event has created serious challenges for the sisters and the wider Cavalia community. Please keep the sisters and all those affected in your thoughts during this difficult time, while remaining hopeful for improved weather and the opportunity to rebuild. †

## Visitors from South Korea and Namibia

By Sr. Dorothy Fabritze, MSC



In October of 2025 the United States Province welcomed two very special guests, MSC Sisters Pelicania from South Korea and Veronica from Namibia. This visit which occurred during the U.S. Province's 125th anniversary celebration of mission served as a cross-cultural idea exchange about being the Heart of God among people of different cultures.

In an effort to share the U.S. mission history, members of Provincial Council accompanied Sr. Veronica and Sr. Pelicania on a tour of the #9 coal mine in Lansford, PA where our Sisters assisted coal miners in creating a shrine to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the early 1900's. This visit provided a glimpse into the first MSC mission to teach the children of Slovak immigrants working in the mines. To further understand various MSC ministries since 1908 our guests enjoyed a mission presentation from Sisters Barbara Winkler, Bernard Overkamp, Dorothy Fabritze, and Mary Anne Bigos.

The second portion of this cross-cultural exchange included visits to present MSC ministries. Srs. Pelicania and Veronica spent time with our retired Sisters at St. Joseph Villa who now practice prayer ministry. MSC Sisters provided a tour of the facility and then our visiting Sisters shared stories of MSC mission in the Korean and Namibian Provinces.

Following this experience, Srs. Veronica and Pelicania traveled to Holy Family Parish and School in Nazareth, Pennsylvania where Sr. Rosemarie Sommers ministers in the school and parish. In addition, they traveled to Bethlehem to witness Sr. Lisa Valentini's education ministry at Notre Dame School.

By the first week of November, after Sr. Pelicania had returned to South Korea, Sr. Dorothy took Sr. Veronica on a classic Pennsylvania adventure; a tour of an Amish Farm and House in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Sr. Veronica found that the Amish farm practices weren't all that different than those practiced in Namibia – and so this fact emphasized the main lesson of this international exchange – although separated by miles and cultures, we remain one in purpose, whether it be to feed our families and communities or to share the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. †

# NUN RUN 2026

More than 200 Runners, walkers, and spectators celebrated a beautiful 60-degree morning at our 17th Annual Nun Run 5K and 1M Fun Walk on April 18th at Holy Guardian Angels Regional School in Reading, Pennsylvania. The top 5K winners included 1st place Overall Male Ryan Pantoja and 1st place Overall Female Maria Spirk, while Mark Garza and Diane Johnson took home 1st place Masters Overall Male and Female 60+. In addition, several people ran their first 5K and others happily achieved personal bests. As a side note, smiling Monsignor Orsulak completed the 1M walk at least three times.

To say that our MSC Sisters appreciate everyone who attended the Nun Run festivities certainly is an understatement. Our Sisters were thrilled with the comradery and fellowship shared throughout the morning among new friends and old. From our faithful volunteers, to runners and walkers, to basket raffle players, to sponsors and donors, to Lay MSC Associates – each person is a valued member of the MSC Family and as such remains daily in our Sisters' thoughts and prayers. We thank everyone whole heartedly for another successful MSC Nun Run!



Visit the Nun Run 2026 picture gallery and a complete list of donors on our website: [www.mscreading.org/nun-run-2026-recap/](http://www.mscreading.org/nun-run-2026-recap/)

## THANK YOU!

### Annual Event and Nun Run Sponsors:

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### Nun Run Event Committee Members:

Andrea Bensusan, Kathy Blume, Nancy Chaiko, Janet Decembrino, Joni Garza, Sue Kasopsky, Carol Noga, Carm Sosik, and Barb Spinka

### Race Day Volunteers:

Kristi Byrne, Annmarie Dallao, Tony & Ellen DiGirolamo, Ed Gensemer, HGA Scouts, HGA students, Berks Catholic Students, Pat Hansbury, Knights of Columbus St. Francis De Sales, Lay MSC Associates, Barb Levan, Joann Rivera, Ted Robidas, Annamaria Rudderow, Joseph Rudderow, Michael Rudderow, Rosemarie Sullivan Sandman, Bernie Whitmoyer, Erin Whitmoyer, and Matt Whitmoyer

### Donations / Raffles:

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**Thank you to Holy Guardian Angels Regional Academy, HGA Parish, and Gethsemane Cemetery for hosting our Nun Run once again – our event would not be possible without their generosity and cooperation.**