

ANNUAL APPEAL 2024



Dear Partner in Mission:

On September 8, 1874, Mother Joseph Hickey and five other sisters, four postulants and two lay postulants from various parts of Ireland, arrived on the west side of New York City. Asked by the bishop to come and staff St. Michael School on the west side of Manhattan, the sisters welcomed 600 children the first day. Sisters from this foundation in New York City were then sent to Staten Island and Fitchburg, Massachusetts, to start new foundations.

This year, we celebrate 150 years of serving those in need, initially through education. However, after the call of Vatican II, which asked religious congregations to go back to their roots, we began to return to the legacy of our foundress by expanding our efforts to health care, pastoral care, parish ministry, social justice and direct service with the poor. We continue to mission in the spirit of our foundress who asked her followers to “spend themselves for the poor.”

The theme for our 150th anniversary year is “On Our Journey: Women of Courage, Faithful to Mission.” We remain rooted in our mission, and this past year we welcomed a family in need to live on our property at Mt. St. Joseph. We also protected a secondary water source for the city of Newburgh, New York, by placing valuable land in a land trust. Continuing our call to care for the Earth and those in need, we maintain our efforts to alleviate food insecurity both in New York and Massachusetts with gardens that supply fresh vegetables to local food pantries and parishes in need. Our sisters and associates have been active in their support of all these initiatives.

While we are reaching out in partnership to carry on our mission, we are also caring for the needs and well-being of our sisters at home. While being faithful to living our mission in new ways in the spirit of our foundress, there is less monetary compensation as we look to caring for our aging members. Your gift will allow us to continue caring for our sisters who have made a positive impact on so many lives over the years.

We thank you, our donors, for your support of our mission and ministry efforts. We appreciate your continued support, financially and spiritually. May God’s blessing grace you and your family.

Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Leadership Team

Sisters Mary Catherine Redmond, Catherine Cleary, Dorothy Scesny and Laura Urbano

Mary Catherine Redmond Catherine Cleary Dorothy Scesny Laura Urbano

YES! I want to support the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary with a monetary donation that allows them to continue their mission and care for their members.

Enclosed is my gift of _____ to support the Presentation Sisters.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone number _____

Return this form with your contribution in the enclosed envelope. Thank you for your continued support!

All contributions are tax deductible when made payable to the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. If you prefer to donate via credit card, please visit our website: www.sistersofthepresentation.org/support-us.

WOMEN OF COURAGE FAITHFUL TO THE MISSION

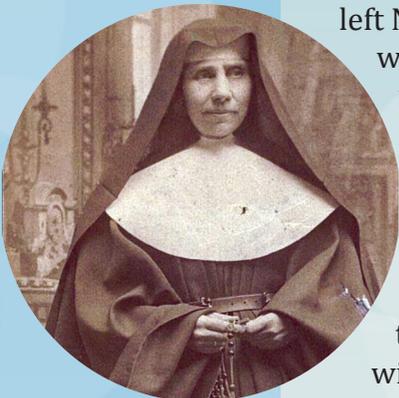
Nano Nagle



The Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary were founded in Cork, Ireland, in 1775 by Nano Nagle. In 1874, Mother Joseph Hickey and 11 other Presentation sisters left Ireland to come to New York. Soon after their arrival on September 8, 1874, the sisters began their work of teaching at Saint Michael School on West 31st Street.

In 1884, Mother Teresa Reynolds and four other sisters established a home for orphaned children at the Frost Farm on Staten Island. They eventually became a separate congregation of the Sisters of the Presentation of Staten Island. In 1886, a second group of sisters, under the leadership of Mother Magdalen Keating, left New York to establish a foundation in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. The sisters went on to found schools and initiate new ministries in many locations in the northeastern United States and elsewhere, including the New Orleans area.

Mother Joseph Hickey



In 1997, the two congregations of Fitchburg, Massachusetts, and Newburgh, New York, united to form one new congregation of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary of New Windsor.

After 150 years, the sisters continue to serve those most in need, committed to the Gospel values of hope, justice, freedom and human dignity, acting for and with the poor and oppressed of our world and caring for the Earth.

Advocacy



At the most recent Chapter of Affairs, the congregation reiterated their commitment to those in need, stating: "In the spirit of our foundress Nano Nagle, Presentation sisters and associates commit ourselves to address the needs of women and children, especially as they are impacted by economic, environmental and racial inequity."

The sisters strive to live this commitment by educating themselves and others, particularly about injustices; offering direct service; providing hospitality and support for those in need; caring for Earth through conservation and recycling efforts, as well as education, and more.

Direct Service



Today the sisters are widening the tent to include men and women who are not vowed members but who share the charism of the community, a call to serve where need calls most loudly. Presentation associates and other partners in mission are serving alongside our sisters and in the same spirit of courage that has shaped the Presentation congregation for nearly 250 years.

If you would like more information about how you can become involved in living the Presentation mission as an associate or partner in mission, please contact Mary Jane Person at personmaryjane9@gmail.com (Massachusetts), Donaldo Batiste at drbatiste53@gmail.com (New Orleans), or Noelle Molloy (New York) at nojo1201@hvc.rr.com.



Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Development Office
84 Presentation Way, New Windsor, New York 12553
Phone: 845-567-0204 ext. 123
Email: mgisler@sistersofthepresentation.org



facebook.com/PresentationSister



instagram.com/nw_pbvm



sistersofthepresentation.org