



Maryknoll Sisters
Making God's Love Visible

WE ARE One Earth Community

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

MARYKNOLL SISTERS ELECT NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM

As 2021 came to a close, the Maryknoll Sisters elected a new leadership team to carry them forward for the next six years.

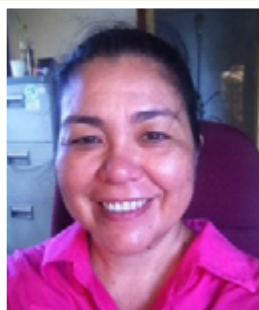
After two weeks of discernment by the congregation and three days of prayerful reflection and sharing by the delegates at the recent General Assembly, **Sister Teresa Hougnon, MM** was elected as the new President of the congregation. She and new Vice President **Sister Genie Natividad, MM** will be joined by Team Members **Sister Leonor Montiel, MM**, General Secretary, and **Sister Elizabeth C. Zwareva, MM**.



President
Sister Teresa
Hougnon, MM



Vice President
Sister Genie
Natividad, MM



General Secretary
Sister Leonor
Montiel, MM



Team Member
Sister Elizabeth C.
Zwareva, MM

The new team succeeds the former leadership headed by Sister Antoinette Gutzler (President) with Sister Numeriana Mojado (Vice President), Sister Anastasia Lott (General Secretary) and Sister Teruko Ito (Team Member).

The Maryknoll Sisters have great responsibilities... to God, to the people we serve, and to supporters like you who bless us with your generosity. That's why choosing our congregational leadership is a big decision.

As we begin a new year of service, we celebrate the fact that leaders past, present, and future among the Maryknoll Sisters have answered the call to lead. All the Sisters and the people we serve join in thanking you for being a part of it all.

Dear Friend and Benefactor,

We have come through another year of challenges and promises, with the Covid-19 pandemic still present but to a lesser degree at times. Across the globe, people are facing hard times with inflation, lack of food and fuel supplies, and political strife. In a world that seems to be dividing more at every point of encounter, we look for ways to bring people together in community. More than ever today, we need to carry a message of hope, extending love and care to each person, regardless of race, creed, nationality, gender or age.

Your generosity in support of our work has helped us carry that message of hope through programs and services that provide needed help to families and communities around the globe. This Annual Report will show you some of the specific ways you have helped us this year.

Even as the world faces many challenges, you are still by our side in mission, supporting the works of the Sisters. You have helped Sister Dee Smith make God's love visible to people living with HIV/AIDS by providing AIDS hospice care. In Peru, you supported Sister Anna Manauis as she provided much-needed food relief during the pandemic. As you make it possible to provide these services, we also see God's love in each person we serve and in you.

We are grateful to you, and we remember you in our prayers daily. You are an important partner in our mission to make God's love visible and be one with all as we participate in One Earth Community. God bless you and all your loved ones.



With deep gratitude,

Sister Teresa Hougnon, MM, President

SISTER SUE RECH HELPS WOMEN IN TANZANIA ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE AND FOOD SECURITY

It's almost a universal rule that wherever there is poverty, insecurity or injustice, women will suffer. That's why Maryknoll Sisters on mission always make a special effort to see that women, and the children who depend upon them, have extra support.

In Tanzania, in East Africa, **Sister Sue Rech, MM** works with a group that helps promote food and land security, holistic development, and social justice among these pastoral people, especially the women. As in so many societies, Maasai women traditionally depend upon their husbands for their livelihoods.



Sister Sue speaks to a gathering of Maasai women



The grinding mill in Makame

Sister Sue's group works to build food security through a "Share a Goat" program, and helps women to achieve financial independence through education, land titling, and training and loans to promote entrepreneurship. Sister's team helps the Maasai procure livestock, building materials and other equipment as well as the tools for education and training.

Your generosity makes this all possible, in addition to the Holistic Center and special projects like the new grinding mill, built by the women of the Makame region so they can process their own grain to make bread and other foods.

With the help of friends like you, the programs introduced by Sister Sue and her colleagues have changed many lives for the better. And with the help of friends like you, they will continue to do so! Thank you for caring and for helping the Maryknoll Sisters to make God's love visible!



To hear a podcast interview with Sister Sue about her work in Tanzania, please visit www.spreaker.com/user/12841125/sue-rech-podcast

SISTER JUDITH NOONE WORKS TO EMPOWER WOMEN IN GUATEMALA

One of the main focuses of Maryknoll Sisters ministries is providing support for women and girls. They face many challenges and barriers because of their gender, and this can be especially true in the developing world, where economic competition and traditional gender roles are stronger.

In the Central American nation of Guatemala, **Sister Judith Noone, MM** works to empower women through education, community-building, food support, and holistic healing practices.

"What we do is analyze," she says. "It's all based on conversation. What is your life like? We talk about the empowerment of women, domestic violence... there's a wide variety of themes. Whatever they're most interested in."



Sister Judith speaks to a women's group meeting



Sister Judith visits Lorena in her garden hothouse

One participant, Lorena, took advantage of the business mentorship she received through the group to start a vegetable garden, hothouse and chicken coop at her home. This tiny farm is now productive enough to not only feed her family, but to provide surplus that she can sell at the market. More than a dozen other women in the area have followed her example.

Another woman named Flora started a clinic for the local people, and practices acupuncture and other forms of holistic healing. She has also started a training program to teach other women in the community how to practice these arts.

"I am very grateful for the interest and contributions of our supporters," Sister Judith says. "And so are the many women who are enthusiastic about this work and want to be a part of it. I want to go out to the other communities to share their enthusiasm about being empowered women!"

SISTER ISABEL da COSTA ARAUJO HELPS PEOPLE IN BRAZIL OPEN DOORS THROUGH LITERACY

The Maryknoll Sisters' mission of making God's love visible means bringing the gifts of food, healthcare, housing, advocacy, and education to people that would otherwise be left to suffer on their own. But it also means being there for them with comfort, friendship, and understanding.

Sister Isabel da Costa Araujo, MM says, "I have a dream of helping the children whose parents are absent or not able to support them. I want to help take care of their basic spiritual, mental and economic needs and help them grow into people ready face the future."

Sister Isabel works in the port city of João Pessoa, near the country's easternmost tip. She works in a program called Afya, which is the Swahili word for "health." "I work with the women in the kitchen and teach arts and crafts to some of the children," she says. "I also teach reading and writing to women in Afya and children in our neighborhood."



Sister Isabel (r) with Lia, who inspired her to start her literacy class

Basic literacy is a key that opens countless doors.

In a place like Brazil, where many poor people have no access to education, being able to read and write is a tremendous advantage not only for the individual, but for their family and community as well.

Sister's ministry, in true Maryknoll tradition, consists of doing what is needed to help people see the love of God in their lives. This also includes cooking in the Afya kitchen, visiting children in orphanages and the elderly at home and in shelters, and comforting the sick, dying and bereaved.

"Our supporters may have never been in the missions, but they are the heart of God," she says. "They give, they support us in mission and make everything we do possible. I'm just grateful for them and I pray for them and their families too."



Sister also teaches reading and writing to children who have few educational resources

SISTER ANNA MANAUIS KEEPS PEOPLE FED AND HEALTHY IN PERU

Sister Anna Manauis, MM works in the impoverished suburbs of Lima, Peru. The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic have been devastating there, among people who were already barely living at a survival level.

To help reduce the suffering in her area, Sister Anna helped a group of local women start a soup kitchen called *Olla Común* ("Common Pot"). It provides meals to local people who would otherwise not be able to feed their families due to the loss of their meager income. Good nutrition is, of course, key to being healthy enough to resist disease during a pandemic.

"Most of the adult people here either work on a part time basis or are daily wage earners working as peddlers, household and market helpers, laborers, etc. There are also a lot of single parents and elderly folks in this zone. The lockdown and obligatory quarantine left many without jobs, and so their families are also left without any resources to provide for food, medicines, and other medical needs."



Sister Anna (l) helps distribute breakfast to children and elderly

Your generosity to Maryknoll missions enables Sister Anna and her colleagues to help the most vulnerable people stay healthy under the most

dangerous and frightening of conditions.

"I am very grateful to all Maryknoll friends and benefactors, our partners in mission, who so generously share their blessings to the most in need and vulnerable of our society," says Sister Anna.



The soup kitchen organizers send their gratitude

"I grew up in the 1950's and was taught Catechism by Maryknoll nuns. Thus, I have always had a special place in my heart for Maryknoll and the critical, nurturing work these women do with passion and joy. The difficult and often dangerous projects these Sisters undertake all around the world continue to amaze and inspire me – specifically Sister Mary Vertucci and her work in Tanzania educating very young girls who were at risk of being sold into marriage by fathers and uncles. These girls will now have a chance at a future that they decide. Maryknoll sisters demonstrate the true hands and heart of Jesus."



—Bonnie D.

"I grew up 'Maryknoll!' My mother was a friend of Mother Mary Joseph. One of my earliest memories was going with my mother to visit Mother Mary Joseph.

Sister Peg and I were classmates and when she entered Maryknoll, I became aware again of Maryknoll through her work in Tanzania. With this background, I continue to support Maryknoll because Maryknoll is truly God's Presence and unconditional love being carried out in this world!"

—Dolores B.



"It is with pleasure that I am writing a short account of my long association with the Maryknoll Sisters. Maryknoll was my late husband's favorite charity and when he died 35 years ago, I continued to contribute as he had done.

In 2009, my daughter and I had the great joy of spending a week with Sister Rosalie and Sister Mary Reese in Tanzania. There we met many members of Community Alive and saw the amazing work the Sisters were doing to help the very poor and to support families who had lost parents in the AIDS epidemic.

Maryknoll has been, and continues to be, a treasured part of my life."

—Anne Z.

The following Sisters celebrated milestone anniversaries during 2021. We thank God for the blessings brought by their years of service.

75 Years of Service (1946)

Sister Rose Patrick St. Aubin	Sister Anna Maria Hartman
Sister Mary Reese	Sister Peggy Dawson
Sister Rosemary Kane	Sister Elizabeth Roach
Sister Cecilia Vandal	Sister Muriel Gallant
Sister Patricia Norton	Sister Nuncia St. Pierre

70 Years of Service (1951)

Sister Maureen Gunning	Sister Christine Ortis
Sister Ruth Marie O'Donnell	Sister Mary Louise Higa
Sister Mary Malherek	Sister Bridget Chapman
Sister Marie Noreen McCarthy	Sister Rosemary Healy
Sister Ramona Oppenheim	Sister Patricia Gallogly
Sister Marya Zaborowski	

60 Years of Service (1961)

Sister Katrina Eggert	Sister Geraldine Wieczezak
Sister Mary Lou Herlihy	Sister Carolyn White
Sister Darlene Jacobs	

25 Years of Service (1995)

Sister Teresa Hougnon	Sister Giang Nguyen
Sister Jeong Mi Lee	Sister Judith Esmenda



Some of our 2021 Jubilarians



September 12 was the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the first Maryknoll Sisters overseas mission. On that day six Sisters arrived in China to begin a ministry of education and service to the poor. Over a hundred more Sisters followed in the next seven years.

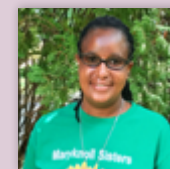
Sister Mary Paul McKenna (l) and Mother Mary Joseph (r) at the orphanage at Luoding, China, 1926.

In March, we launched our new **Missionary Life Podcast**, in which Sisters discuss their lives in mission. Find it at: www.spreaker.com/show/missionary-life



In May, the Sisters planted a tree in thanks to God for granting us strength and courage during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our annual raffle was dedicated to raising money for a new elevator for the Sisters Center. The winners were Robert E. of Rochester, NY (Grand Prize), and Anna G. of Laconia, NH and Thomas H. of Rapid City, SD (Second Prizes).



On August 8 our newest Sister, Faithmary Munyeki, pronounced her first vows. Sister

Faithmary is from Kenya in East Africa and has been working with asylum seekers, tutoring online and working in a food pantry.

The following Maryknoll Sisters went home to God in the year 2021. We pray for them and celebrate their lives of faithful, selfless service.



Sister Beatrice Carvalho
on January 10, 2021
Age 96, 76 years a sister



Sister Dorothy McGowan
on January 13, 2021
Age 86, 68 years a sister



Sister Janice McLaughlin
on March 7, 2021
Age 79, 59 years a sister



Sister Marie Ann Lipetzky
on March 19, 2021
Age 97, 80 years a sister



Sister Margaret Kilduff
on January 24, 2021
Age 88, 70 years a sister



Sister Mary Grenough
on January 30, 2021
Age 87, 65 years a sister



Sister Gloria Ryan
on May 23, 2021
Age 97, 76 years a sister



Sister Agnes Chou
on May 23, 2021
Age 97, 76 years a sister



Sister Patricia Desaulniers
on February 8, 2021
Age 99, 74 years a sister



Sister Madeline Maria Dorsey
on February 13, 2021
Age 102, 85 years a sister



Sister Dolores Rosso
on July 6, 2021
Age 97, 77 years a sister



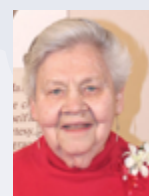
Sister Ann Klaus
on August 4, 2021
Age 93, 73 years a sister



Sister Helen Phillips
on February 15, 2021
Age 94, 76 years a sister



Sister Marion Phillips
on February 26, 2021
Age 86, 68 years a sister



Sister Therese Howard
on November 22, 2021
Age 94, 65 years a sister

"The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever." —1 John 2:17

MAKE A DONATION

Your donation today will help our sisters who serve poor, oppressed and marginalized people in 18 countries around the world. Every gift, regardless of size, is appreciated and makes a difference!

BECOME A PARTNER IN MISSION

You can specify an amount to be charged each month to your credit card or withdrawn from your bank account. This way, you can make a more impactful gift over time instead of a lump-sum gift. To arrange this, visit our website at maryknollsisters.org. You may cancel or change your gift at any time by contacting us.

ENROLLMENT CARDS

Your offerings help support the ministry, education, mission and care of Maryknoll Sisters around the world. As a Friend of the Maryknoll Sisters, you and those you enroll are partners in our spiritual community, and are remembered in these special ways:

- In Eucharistic celebrations at our Center and in missions world-wide
- In the prayer ministry of our infirm and elderly Sisters
- In the Sisters' daily prayers and good works
- At an annual Mass in honor of Friends and Benefactors



BUY A BRICK

The Maryknoll Sisters Path to Mission project is to recognize our donors, whose support has made our mission work possible. The Path is meant to provide a place for prayer, meditation, reflection, healing and thanksgiving.



Many of our supporters are looking for ways to make a major, impactful gift to Maryknoll Sisters ministries. We want to make sure that this can be done without causing financial hardship for the donor...and in some cases, even providing benefits.

Below, we present some options for giving that you may wish to consider.

- **DONOR ADVISED FUND.** This option allows you to create a fund dedicated to making charitable gifts, *for which you can take an immediate tax deduction*. Any growth of the fund through investment is also tax-free. You can then recommend, at any time, that an amount of money from your fund be donated to a qualified charity of your choice, such as the Maryknoll Sisters.
- **INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT (IRA).** You can realize tax advantages by giving directly to the Maryknoll Sisters from your IRA. Qualified Charitable Donations (QCD) through your IRA have a maximum annual amount of \$100,000 per individual. (If you file taxes jointly, the maximum is \$200,000.) The Required Mandatory Distribution (RMD) can also be directed to Maryknoll Sisters to satisfy the distribution mandate while reducing your tax liability. *The requirements to receive these tax benefits are not complicated.* Your financial planner or accountant can assist you in making your gift to the greatest advantage.
- **A BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL.** By leaving an amount in your will (after your other heirs have been provided for), you can make a potentially large gift while assuring that the money will still be available if you ever need it. You can choose to leave a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or the remainder after all your other bequests have been made.

There are many other options as well! To learn more or to arrange a planned gift to the Maryknoll Sisters, please contact our Planned & Major Gifts Office at (866) 662-9900, or email PlannedGiving@mksisters.org.

VISIT OUR ONLINE GIFT SHOP!

All proceeds from our gift shop sales will benefit our mission work here and around the world. We have custom Maryknoll merchandise: mugs, tumblers, tote bags, phone wallets and so much more! There are also many treasures that have been made by our Sisters to share with you, such as books, paintings, prayer cards and more! **FREE gift with all purchases.**

To place an order, go online to:
maryknollsisters.org/shop

Or call 914-941-7575 ext. 5639



CHECK OUT OUR MISSIONARY LIFE PODCAST:

www.maryknollsisters.org/missionarylifepodcast

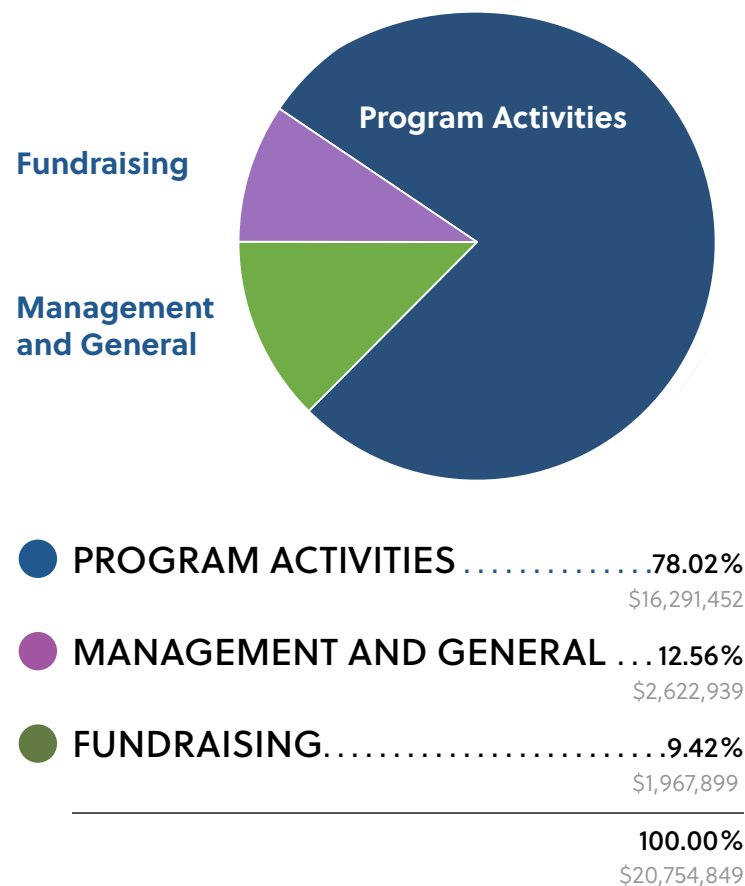
Our Missionary Life Podcast highlights the work of the Maryknoll Sisters, who have been serving the needs of the poor, ailing and marginalized overseas for the past 100+ years! Each episode will take you on a journey across the globe. You will get to experience a day in the life of a Maryknoll Sister serving in a part of the world where their service and compassion is sorely needed. Each episode is hosted by PR/Digital Communications Manager Chelsea Lopez, who has a talent for discovering the Sisters' most captivating mission stories.



We are thrilled to take you, our partners in mission, on this journey with us and know you'll enjoy learning how your prayers and support are helping so many!

www.maryknollsisters.org/missionarylifepodcast

Today we have many Sisters serving in 18 locations around the world. Contributions received by the Maryknoll Sisters go to support these global ministries of support, education, pastoral work as well as our retired Sisters at the Center:



The Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, Inc. is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization incorporated in the State of New York.

A copy of the complete financial statements audited by Berard and Associates is available at the Maryknoll Sisters Center at Maryknoll, New York.



"Today we feel the need for praying for peace and the restoration of brotherly love in Christ. Christ's miracles go on today as they did during his lifetime on earth. Although, we may not be conscious of them, God works miracles in our own souls. Listen to hear what God has to say to you."

—Mother Mary Joseph, 1940

Prayer for our Benefactors

*Because you heard God's commission
and sent us in mission
God's word was spoken
God's mercy was proclaimed
God's love was made visible
Because you cared the hungry were fed
the homeless found shelter
the young were given a future bright
with learning's light
You do not see the hope you gave
the love you inspired
the burdens you lightened
but God sees all and rejoices in you
May the God of all kindness
the God of all goodness
continue to shine in and through you
your light and your joy
your strength and your guide
on the journey of life
your "Welcome Home" at journey's end.*

~ Sr. Noel Devine, M.M.