

Actions



Celebrate With Us!

**Four Holy Child Ministries Mark
25th Anniversary**



DEAR FRIENDS,

It has been an exciting and rewarding year in the American Province. Alert to the needs of the twenty-first century, we have celebrated important milestones from New York to California.

In this edition of ACTIONS, we highlight a few of these celebrations and extend thanks to you and the entire Holy Child family for being

a part of our success. The Society's founder, Cornelia Connelly, believed that when our actions were rooted in God's love, great things will happen, and indeed, they have!

Four of our "younger" Holy Child ministries – Casa Cornelia Law Center, Casa Cornelia Center for Education, Providence Center, and South Central Los Angeles Ministry Project – are celebrating their Silver Anniversaries. I congratulate and thank the Sisters, staff, volunteers, and supporters, both past and present, who have shared their God-given gifts to advance our Holy Child mission at these organizations. Beginning on the next page, we feature an article on each ministry and how it is handing on our Holy Child spirit in Los Angeles, New York City, Philadelphia, and San Diego.

This year's Holy Child Awards Dinner in Los Angeles, California, honored two outstanding people – Jim Sarni and Brittany Reeser. Jim and Brittany give witness to our Holy Child values of compassion, zeal, action, and joy. The Society is blessed and grateful to have such life-giving people in its community.

In June 2018, SHCJ Associates in the American Province hosted a productive and uplifting national gathering, an event that takes place every six years, in Rosemont, PA.

The three-day weekend of intellectual, spiritual, and social enrichment inspired Associates to grow toward their true selves while welcoming God's presence in their lives. The Associates left the gathering feeling renewed and invigorated.

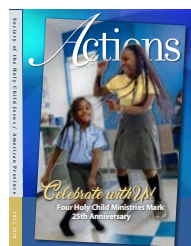
An emotional and spiritual ceremony took place in May when four Holy Child Sisters travelled to Avoca, Minnesota, to honor the final resting place of six young Native American women. In the late 1800s, these young women were students of our Sisters when they died of tuberculosis. Our Sisters joined with Native American tribe members and the Avoca Catholic community to properly mark their grave and to help provide a peaceful closure.

Cornelia wrote that "You will see that Our Lord will do everything if we do our best." This year is an example of how our collective "best" has enabled God to work through us *to meet the wants of the age*.

On behalf of the Holy Child Sisters, I thank our schools, ministries, Associates, alumni, friends, and supporters for sharing our mission with *Actions Not Words*!

Gratefully,

Carroll Juliano, SHCJ
American Province Leader



Students Celebrate at Providence Center, Philadelphia, PA, Photographer: Adriana Cipriani Mecchi

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Celebrate With Us!

Twenty-five years ago, approximately 20 Holy Child Sisters in the American Province were working in various ministries to alleviate the problems faced by immigrants in the United States. They sought ways to welcome “new people” while addressing the needs of the country’s impoverished. According to the 1991 United States census, “more children live in poverty since President Truman. One in seven Americans were living below the poverty line.”

The Holy Child Sisters took action with the theme of “One Heart and One Mind,” with the hope of moving beyond individualism and working for “one” common good — serving all of God’s people.

In 1993, the American Province founded or co-founded four new ministries that specifically addressed the needs and concerns of immigrants and the underserved:

- **CORNELIA CONNELLY LAW CENTER**
San Diego, CA

- **CORNELIA CONNELLY SCHOOL**
New York, NY
- **PROVIDENCE CENTER**
Philadelphia, PA
- **SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES MINISTRY PROJECT**
Los Angeles, CA

This year, these four ministries are celebrating their Silver Anniversaries. Each organization serves in different ways and the demands are greater than ever, but at the heart of their programs, the Holy Child mission — *to rejoice in God’s presence and to help people believe that God lives and acts in them and in our world* — beats strong!

In this edition of ACTIONS, we invite you to learn more about Casa Cornelia Law Center, Cornelia Connelly Center, Providence Center, and South Central LAMP, and to rejoice with us. With the support of our Sisters, collaborators, donors, and friends, we continue *to meet the wants of the age!* Thank you!

CASA CORNELIA LAW CENTER

Reflections in a Jubilee Year

On October 20, 2018, Casa Cornelia Law Center will celebrate its 25th Anniversary of providing free legal services to indigent victims of human rights violations. The Law Center was founded by the Society of the Holy Child Jesus in 1993 under the direction of Ann Durst, SHCJ, and Wayne Gradon, SHCJ. Today, the Center is the largest public interest law firm in San Diego County that serves people fleeing persecution in their homelands, unaccompanied, abused and abandoned children detained by immigration authorities and victims of violent crimes, including human trafficking. Last year, Casa Cornelia Law Center served more than 2,000 clients. On April 10, 2018, I interviewed Sister Ann to ask for her thoughts in this jubilee year.

- Rosa Mitsumasu, Development Manager
Casa Cornelia Law Center

What brought Sister Wayne Gradon, SHCJ, and you to San Diego 25 years ago?

Sister Margaret Crowley, SHCJ, then American Province Leader, asked if the two of us would establish a contemporary mission in the southwest to address the needs of the poor. It was an idea that had been circulating among the Holy Child Sisters, and it seemed the time was right. I had just completed a sabbatical year, and Sister Wayne was finishing her work as a desktop publisher with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Once decided that we would be serving the immigrant community, San Diego was the natural place to begin. It’s on the border, and the San Ysidro Port of Entry was, and remains, the busiest land border crossing in the world.



Ann Durst, SHCJ, founding Executive Director and Board Member of Casa Cornelia Law Center, and Sheila McNiff, SHCJ, Board Member, smile as they pose for a photo during the 2015 La Mancha Awards



Cynthia Vives, SHCJ, member of Casa Cornelia's first Board of Directors, is photographed during a leadership meeting for the Law Center



Jean O'Meara, SHCJ, and the late Elizabeth Drew, SHCJ, attend a Casa Cornelia reception

With so many needs to be met, why focus on immigration?

In 1993, immigration was not the “hot” topic it is today. But immigration law had a hold on me since my days at Georgetown Law. Professionally, it was challenging — the Immigration and Nationality Act is comparable in its complexity to the tax code. Personally, I found the narratives of those fleeing their homelands compelling. I had just completed a tour of the Mexican/American border, where I was researching the availability of legal services for those fleeing the insurgencies in Central America. Pro bono services were few and far between (and remain so 25 years later). I really believed we were called to meet this need as best as we could.

In retrospect it was providential — God leading us to be here for the thousands of victims who would seek assistance over the years.

What were the beginnings like?

Sparse. Casa Cornelia Law Center began in a 300 square foot space in the lower level of a condo, where Sister Wayne and I lived. New staff always enjoy hearing of the early days, including when we shared one phone and waited patiently for an ancient copier to spew a single brief. In 1998, it was a new day when we moved to offices on Laurel Street, where we had 1,000 square feet! Private offices all around and a phone system — one line — but five phones.

After the move, the number of SHCJ on staff increased: Elizabeth Drew, SHCJ, moved from Tijuana to work with our

domestic violence victims; Helen Schwartz, SHCJ, diligently thanked our benefactors; and Joan Rigney, SHCJ, was our ever-gracious receptionist. We incorporated and became a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Holy Child Sisters Jean O'Meara, Cynthia Vives, Catherine Quinn, Jeanne Ronzani, Margaret Doyle, Mary Wayne Gradon, and I served as Casa Cornelia's first board of directors. Elizabeth Loomis, SHCJ, was secretary to the board. Our first budget was \$78,000, and we had no idea where it would come from — but it came.

In subsequent years, former Holy Child Sisters Barbara DeConcini, Ellen Colangelo, and Gloria Bader, joined the board. Casa Cornelia Law Center steadily began to take its place in the legal community. Looking back, those were the halcyon days.

What has changed? How are things different today?

Last year, Casa Cornelia Law Center provided legal services to 2,450 people seeking safe haven. Among them were more than 500 people fleeing persecution or torture in their homelands; 954 unaccompanied children from Central America, who were desperate to escape the gang violence of their cities; and 616 victims of violent crimes, some of whom were victims of human trafficking. Casa Cornelia Law Center's offices now occupy 6,700 square feet on Fifth Avenue, where we squeeze in 26 employees, nine of whom are attorneys. One-hundred-one volunteer attorneys accepted new cases last year bringing the total

number of volunteer hours to almost 20,000. Attorney time was equivalent to the services of six full-time attorneys. Excluding contributed services, the annual budget exceeded \$2 million dollars. All services are provided free of charge to indigent persons.

What has changed? Everything.

As you leave the board, what does the future of Casa Cornelia look like?

On the one hand, the timing is perfect. The administration and staff of the Law Center are incredibly gifted and committed. Under the leadership of Carmen Chavez, Esq., Casa Cornelia is now recognized as the premiere not-for-profit immigration law firm in Southern California.

With the assistance of Elizabeth Camarena, Esq., Associate Director and Jesse Imbriano, Esq., Supervising Attorney, Casa Cornelia has demonstrated a remarkable elasticity in meeting the unique challenges facing the immigrant community. They restructured the delivery of legal services to meet the current crisis and expanded services to support the anticipated increase in deportation litigation.

The board of directors has expanded its membership and is committed to ensuring that the Law Center garners the necessary resources to fulfill its mission.

On the other hand, it is never easy to step aside when so much remains undone. Around the world, someone is displaced every three seconds, forced to flee because of violence, war, or persecution. Most will live a lifetime on the move. Some will risk everything and flee, embarking on perilous journeys to other lands. Few will reach a port of entry; fewer still will qualify for assistance. Although I will not be on hand, it is a great comfort to know that Casa Cornelia attorneys will be. Undoubtedly, I will miss it. However, I am filled with gratitude that God has so blessed this ministry. It's truly meeting the *wants of the age*. I think Cornelia is pleased.



Below: Catherine Quinn, SHCJ (left), who served on Casa Cornelia Law Center's first Board of Directors, smiles with Elizabeth Principi at a Casa Cornelia Law Center gathering



Left: In the 1990s, the late Joan Rigney, SHCJ, served as the Law Center's ever-gracious receptionist. (In back) Helen Schwartz, SHCJ, worked at the Law Center sending thank you letters to benefactors

Below: Susan Snyder, SHCJ, Elizabeth (Mel) Loomis, SHCJ, and Margaret (Peg) Doyle, SHCJ, smile as their picture is taken while celebrating at the annual La Mancha Awards. Sisters Mel and Peg served on the Law Center's first Board of Directors



Justice With Compassion

CORNELIA CONNELLY CENTER

Celebrates 25 Years of Empowering At-Risk Girls

Under the leadership of Connie Bush, Kathleen Roney, and Mary Claire Ryan, the Society of the Holy Child Jesus founded Cornelia Connelly Center (CCC), which has served at-risk girls for more than 25 years. After witnessing the lack of educational opportunities for girls on Manhattan's Lower East Side, these three women were called to action and created an organization that is deeply rooted in Holy Child's joyful approach to living and learning. This spring, Cornelia Connelly Center was featured on *MetroFocus*, PBS's multi-platform public media initiative. In its special report on poverty in America, *MetroFocus* referred to CCC as the "gem of the Lower East Side" and highlighted the school's extraordinary high school graduation rate of 97 percent. New York City Schools' current graduation rate is 61 percent.

Each student's 13-year journey at CCC begins at Connelly Middle School, where young girls from impacted communities develop academically, artistically, and spiritually. Students then enroll in the Graduate Support Program, which provides CCC middle school alumnae with the essential resources and support system to thrive in high school, including college counseling, SAT test preparation, and tutoring. For their alumnae in college, CCC's staff communicates regularly with students to ensure they have the resources to succeed in college and beyond.

Arianna, CMS '22 (top), Juel, CMS '21 (far-right), and CCC Lower School students (below) show the joy that fills Cornelia Connelly Center every day



A young woman learns to shine – transforming her life and our world.

This past April, CCC hosted its 25th Anniversary Gala, the Center's most successful gala yet. More than 250 guests gathered at The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers to support CCC and to honor graduate Crislaury Torres, who shared with the audience how her experience at the Center helped her realize the power of her voice and the importance of being organized and resilient. Crislaury graduated from high school this spring and will attend Manhattanville College in the fall. She was the third student in her family to attend Connelly Middle School. Her older sister, Genesis, now works at CCC's Graduate Support Program.

Cornelia Connelly's spirit of love and trust for all children is the foundation of the Holy Child education provided to

the Torres sisters and every student at CCC. The girls thrive because of that love, as well as develop a deep sense of community and joy of learning. You can feel the Holy Child spirit in the classrooms, the clubs, the sports teams, and the entire community.

The Society of the Holy Child Jesus remains a critical partner for CCC and makes it possible for the Center to continue its important mission. The Society's support of CCC embodies Cornelia's words — *generosity, generosity, generosity must be the beginning and ending of our life.*

With the Society by its side, CCC eagerly anticipates the next 25 years of serving a new generation.



PROVIDENCE CENTER

A Place of Peace

Miguel, a third grader in Providence Center's youth program, was having a difficult year. Miguel's mother was incarcerated, and he was outwardly angry and emotional. As Providence Center's staff became familiar with Miguel, they realized that deep sadness, worry, and fear contributed to his outbursts. Miguel missed his mother, and he didn't know when he would see her.

One day, when being picked up by his grandmother from the Center, Miguel ran to the corner of the room and burst into tears. He didn't want to leave the Center. The teacher, as she was trained to do, went to Miguel, spoke softly, and started to calm him using deep breathing techniques. She

then asked Miguel to try the visualization exercise the students had learned the previous week. The teacher said, "close your eyes and picture your place of peace."



David Chiles, Executive Director of Providence Center, poses with Margaret Doherty, SHCJ, an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher at the Center



Above: The entrance of Providence Center features a mural highlighting the Holy Child Sisters' history in the community



Left: Students work on an art project at Providence Center

“Miss,” he replied, “this is the only place where I have any peace.”

As Providence Center celebrates 25 years of service in the Fairhill community of North Philadelphia, the Center reflects on what it means to be a place of peace. This section of the city is predominantly Latino and imbued with a rich culture, energy, and spirit of its people, many who have migrated to the United States in search of opportunity. Fairhill is also the poorest neighborhood in America’s poorest big city. The neighborhood is challenged with high rates of violent crimes and the effects of the opioid crisis.

Holy Child Sisters have been serving the people of Fairhill community since 1886, when they ministered and taught at Saint Edward Parish and School. However, when the parish closed, and hearts were broken, the Sisters remained true to their mission to *meet the wants of the age*. They stayed. The Holy Child Sisters founded Providence Center, a place of hope and peace.

As a result of the Sisters’ enduring faith, hope, and action, our Holy Child spirit continues to grow at Providence Center. The Holy Child spirit flows to our adult learners, as they

Below: Providence Center offers a safe place for students to play sports like soccer

study English and seek to build better lives for themselves and their children. The Holy Child spirit empowers teens, who grow to be role models and serve as catalysts for positive change through the Center’s leadership program. And for children who too often carry adult burdens on their young shoulders — a youngster like Miguel — the Holy Child spirit embraces and warms them.

Providence Center is a place of peace and love for all, and we look forward to spreading the Holy Child spirit in the next quarter of a century and beyond!



Above: A Providence Center Teen Leader helps a student with his homework



SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES MINISTRY PROJECT

Building stronger communities through advocacy and education

In response to the civil unrest of 1992, the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus joined with seven congregations of Catholic sisters to determine how to best support the devastated community in South Central Los Angeles. The Holy Child Sisters canvassed the neighborhood and heard firsthand from mothers, who wanted to improve their language and parenting skills, as well as prepare their young children for the rigors of school. The Sisters immediately recognized the power and importance of supporting these women, or in the words of Cornelia Connelly, *to meet the wants of the age*, and opened the South Central Los Angeles Ministry Project (South Central LAMP) that same year. Since then, South Central LAMP has served more than 2,500 families.

For more than 25 years, South Central LAMP has worked to empower mothers, break the cycle of illiteracy, and lay the

foundation for children to succeed in school and life. It is the only program in South Los Angeles that simultaneously serves both mothers and their children.

With literacy as the cornerstone of its mission, South Central LAMP provides a nurturing environment for economically disadvantaged mothers to learn essential language, parenting, and financial skills. South Central LAMP'S unique, holistic approach also includes preparing their children ages 0-5 to be successful in school through the use of an innovative, research-based preschool curriculum.

Mothers who complete coursework at South Central LAMP report an increase in self-esteem and the ability to advocate

In South Central LAMP's Early Education Program, the teacher prepares the children for kindergarten



The children in the Early Education Program practice identifying patterns to build stronger math skills

for themselves and their children, which is a hallmark of the program. They also have the tools they need to reach their full potential and to build enduring, healthy relationships with their families and in their communities.

In addition to its education and weekly food distribution programs, South Central LAMP provides family advocacy support to help parents set goals, address obstacles, and identify community resources, such as legal and immigration assistance, food pantries, and health and wellness services. During the summer months, South Central LAMP hosts Camp LAMP, a family program that delivers a camp experience for those who do not have access to transportation or the resources to explore outside of South Los Angeles. At Camp LAMP, on-site educational programs are enhanced by field trips to places such as Discovery Cube in Orange County, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in San Pedro, Kidspace in Pasadena, and Underwood Family Farms in Moorpark.

South Central LAMP's goal is to create meaningful and lasting change through empowered women who are prepared to advocate for themselves and their families. South Central LAMP believes strong mothers foster strong children. With its robust offerings of education classes and an extraordinary 93 percent retention rate, it is succeeding!



Mothers in the Family Literacy Program learn and strengthen computer skills



Graduates of the three-year Family Literacy Program celebrate their accomplishment



Holy Child Sisters Honor The Final Resting Place Of Native Americans, Former Students

*Roseanne McDougall, SHCJ, Director of Archives
for the American Province, offers remarks at the
grave marker dedication*



On Pentecost Sunday, May 20, 2018, Holy Child Sisters Jeanne Marie Guerin, Patricia Tirrell, Marie Ursino, and Roseanne McDougall attended a dedication and blessing of a grave marker for six Native American young women at Saint Rose of Lima Cemetery in Avoca, Minnesota. These young women had been students at Saint Rose of Lima School where they died of consumption (tuberculosis) between 1883-1890. They and other Native Americans were sent by the United States government to boarding schools like Saint Rose to learn the English language, wear a new dress, and bury their traditions. Many were often forced to leave their families.

The first American Holy Child Sisters, along with Holy Child Sisters from England, had been teaching at Saint Rose when these young women died. Through the generosity and planning of the Catholic Daughters of America in Avoca, the graves of these six students are now properly marked and honored. The students' names and dates of death were verified by the American Province Archives and placed on the grave marker.

We invite you to read Sister Roseanne's account of the dedication.

At the grave marker dedication, the Holy Child Sisters were among approximately 100 people who gathered at the plot where the six young women have rested, for the most part, unknown and unrecognized, for the last 130 years. While the sky was gray and the weather chilly, spirits were open and cordial as strangers introduced themselves to one another. About 25 members of several different Native American tribes were among those who came to honor the memory of the Native American women who had died at the school.

The Catholic Blessing of hymns, readings, and a brief homily by Reverend Thien Nguyen, pastor of Saint Ann Church, now the local Catholic parish, was followed by remarks by Janet Timmerman of the Murray County Historical Society, John Eagle, a Tribal Elder, and Roseanne McDougall, SHCJ.



The Native American blessing includes bright white feathers during dedication



Their presentations touched on three themes:

- the presence and role of the Society in the education of these young Native American women, and upon the spirit of love, strength and sweetness shown at the time of each one's death;
- both the respect and deep injustices accorded to Native Americans in the local area during the 19th century; and
- the profound tragedies suffered by Native Americans, as well as the wellspring of peace engendered during this dedication ceremony. The speakers' words created a rich context for the ceremony and enhanced the understanding of those present.

I am grateful for the positive contributions made by the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus in Avoca, Minnesota, in the 1880s. They cared for these young Native American girls with reverence for their culture and for their human, spiritual flourishing.

- Jeanne Marie Guerin, SHCJ

The speeches noted that the Holy Child Sisters truly cared for the Native American women both as students and in their last illnesses. However, at the time of their deaths, the Society was "too poor" to provide grave markers. Now, in this dedication, the Catholic Daughters and those in attendance were bringing the Sisters' work of care to completion.

At the beginning of the Native American Blessing, the men were seated on the ground around the grave marker. The women were also seated on the ground, but several feet away and in a group. The eldest woman, chanting in the Native language, seemed to tell a story as she held a "bouquet" of bright white feathers in her hand. At times, she appeared to be rocking an infant (the bunch of feathers) in her arms, and at other times it was as if she were holding and comforting a small child. Afterwards, other women in attendance brought beverages, fruit, and bread to the grave marker. There was a sense that perhaps the deceased Native American women were being welcomed to their final resting place and fed.

The Native American women present at the ceremony were strikingly beautiful in their dress, yet there was a sense of poignancy as they told the story. Next, the Native American men and women who wished to speak did so, and they passed the peace pipe. This last part of the Native American Blessing was a very moving to witness. It was a time of healing, growth, and unity. Sister Patricia (Pat) Tirrell commented, "I was so struck...the Native Americans were so thankful." Sister Pat's visit to Avoca was one of the most meaningful experiences she has had during her many years as a member of the Society.



Two women participate during the ceremony honoring the final resting place of Native American students

Thanks to photographer Jerry Johnson who supplied the photos of this important ceremony

A Love Full of Action

2018 National SHCJ Associates Gathering

The 2018 SHCJ National Associates Gathering took place this summer with 40 women and men traveling from Chile, England, and across the United States to Rosemont, PA, for prayer, inspiration, reflection, and fellowship. The gathering kicked-off on Thursday, June 21, when early arrivers joined Helen McDonald, SHCJ, for a tour of Cornelia's Philadelphia in Old City. In the evening, Carroll Juliano, SHCJ, American Province Leader, and Cathi Duffy, Director of SHCJ Associates for the American Province, officially opened the gathering with a warm welcome and prayer.

During the course of the next three days — Friday, June 22 — Sunday, June 24 — the Associates gathered for prayer, attended several presentations, toured the American Province Archives and Rosemont College's Chapel, spent time with Sisters living at Holy Child Center, and shared meals. The Associates were also guests at the Sisters' Jubilee Mass and Reception. In the evenings, they socialized and relaxed, rekindling old friendships and making new ones.

For many Associates, they found the presentations by Judith Lancaster, SHCJ, Elizabeth Mary Strub, SHCJ, and Cathi Duffy were most inspiring. SHCJ Associate Kay Rowan shares,

"each speaker was so knowledgeable within their field of expertise. They presented information and reflections simply and clearly while leading each participant toward a deeper understanding of where we have come from, who we are, and how we can sustain our spirituality."

The gathering also challenged the Associates as a group and as individuals on how they can embody the Holy Child spirit in their daily lives and encounters. During a panel discussion, three Associates shared how they are personally serving others, especially migrants and refugees. Associates met in small groups to exchange their experiences and generate new action steps for living out the Holy Child core values such as joy, zeal, compassion, and respect.

At the end of the national gathering, Dian Pringle expressed thanks for the weekend and shared that "everything on the agenda was valuable to me, and confirmed that I made the right decision to walk this path as an Associate."

To learn more about the SHCJ Associates, please contact Cathi Duffy at associates-usa@shcj.org.



Being an SHCJ Associate is not about doing more, it's about being more.



Associates Linda and Gerry Tarney take "Cornelia Connelly" tour in Old Philadelphia



SHCJ Associates Marilyn Nigro, Sophie Rudge, Judy Talvacchia, and Juliet Njoku attend the Holy Child Sisters' Jubilee Mass on Saturday, June 23



SHCJ Associates Dian Taylor-Pringle and her husband Des Pringle attend the gathering



SHCJ Associate Marta Carrion and Joseph Cerrone attend the presentation on Friday, June 22



Elizabeth Mary Strub, SHCJ, gives keynote address – *Sending Forth* – on Sunday, June 24



Below: (left to right) Associate Denise Karasic and Cathi Duffy, Director of the SHCJ Associates in the American Province, pose for a photo after presentation by Judith Lancaster, SHCJ, on Friday, June 22

TENTH ANNUAL HOLY CHILD AWARDS DINNER

Handing on the Spirit



On Thursday, March 22, 2018, the Society of the Holy Child Jesus hosted its Tenth Annual Holy Child Awards Dinner in Los Angeles, CA. Holy Child Sisters, ministries, friends, and supporters gathered at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel to celebrate and honor this year's Holy Child Award recipients – Jim Sarni and Brittany Reeser. The Society recognized Jim and Brittany for their zeal, compassion, reverence, and action in serving others as they *meet the wants of the age*. We thank our Awards Dinner Honorary Committee members, sponsors, and donors for joining with the Holy Child Sisters on this celebratory evening and for "Handing on the Spirit!"



2018 Faith in Action Honoree
James Sarni

Jim is a Managing Principal at Payden & Rygel and a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of

Directors and the Investment Policy Committee. He helps oversee the firm's U.S. fixed-income strategies and serves as a Senior Portfolio Manager. Jim is a frequent speaker with financial media and has been quoted in publications such as the Wall Street Journal and Financial Times along with appearances on CNBC, Bloomberg TV, and Fox Business Network.

Jim's generosity with his time and expertise is seen in many non-profit and religious organizations. In addition to being a member of the Society's Mission Advancement Advisory Board, he serves as President of the Pasadena Chapter of Legatus and Chairman of the Order of St. Gregory the Great and sits on the Board of Trustees of Mayfield Junior School. Jim is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Center for Investment Studies and the Board of Leaders at University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business and President of the Pasadena City College Foundation.



Chris Adlers serves as the master of ceremonies



(Above on left) Nora Warren, faculty member of Mayfield Senior School of the Holy Child, presents Brittany Reeser with the 2018 Holy Child Spirit Award



(Above on left) Jim Sarni receives the 2018 Faith in Action Award from Eileen McDevitt, SHCJ, Director of the Holy Child Network of Schools

Jim is a member of the CFA Institute, which helps to lead the investment profession globally by promoting the highest standards of ethics, education, and professional excellence. He is past President of the Washington, DC-based Investment Adviser Association, CFA Society of Los Angeles and St. Philip the Apostle School Board of Trustees.

Jim and his wife, Becky, have two daughters, Jessica and Angela. Both daughters have been educated at Holy Child Schools – Mayfield Junior and Mayfield Senior Schools of the Holy Child Jesus. Becky remains an active volunteer at Mayfield Senior School.



2018 Holy Child Spirit Honoree Brittany Reeser

Brittany graduated from Mayfield Junior School in 2001 and Mayfield Senior School in 2005. After graduating from Loyola Marymount University in 2009, she became a teacher at Alliance Dr. Olga Mohan High School, a charter school in downtown Los Angeles. Brittany went above and beyond her duty as a teacher, often spending time tutoring and working with her students before and after school and on weekends. While teaching at Alliance,

Brittany spoke at Mayfield Senior School on Cornelia Connelly Day, sharing, "It was amazing to reflect back on becoming a teacher and realizing how many of my decisions were made because of what Mayfield instilled in me — valuing family, community, and service."

Brittany has earned recognition as a dedicated teacher. She was presented with the 2014 Hart Vision Teacher of the Year Award by the California Charter Schools Association and the 2017 George Olmsted Jr., Class of 1924 Prize for Excellence in Secondary School Teaching at Williams College.

Currently, Brittany is the Director of Mathematics at STEM Prep, a Charter Organization consisting of two schools, Crown Prep Academy and Math and Science College Preparatory. Brittany commits her life to making a difference in her students' lives and inspiring them to believe in themselves and all that they can achieve. She attributes her Holy Child education for her drive to serve others. She feels strongly about teaching in an environment where she can help those who often get overlooked. Brittany is an enthusiastic, compassionate, and caring young woman who continues to live "Holy Child" each day.

Holy Child students who gave the convocation pose with Carroll Juliano, SHCJ, American Province Leader

(From left to right) Emma Stolpe '20 Mayfield Senior School of the Holy Child Jesus; Isabelle Panganiban '18 Cornelia Connelly School, Anaheim, CA; and Tucker Conn '24 Mayfield Junior School of the Holy Child Jesus, Pasadena, CA



Remembrances



Jane Bigelow, SHCJ

(Mother Mary Samuel)

January 30, 1933 – May 15, 2018

Sister Jane served as a teacher, principal, and counselor during her 64 years as a Holy Child Sister. She worked in elementary schools in Philadelphia, PA, Portland, OR, Short Hill, NJ, and Washington, D.C. While teaching, Sister Jane continued to study. She earned a Master's in Library Science from the University

of Portland and a Master's in English and Psychology from Portland State University. In 1992, a complete change of ministry brought Sister Jane to Emmaus House in Ocean Grove, NJ. Here she ministered for 20 years as a healing educator. Her tasks included counseling and directing retreats. While ministering at Emmaus House, she attended Rutgers University and became a licensed counselor.



Elizabeth Fitzmaurice, SHCJ

(Mother Thomas Mary)

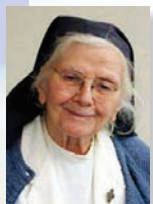
October 23, 1930 – May 25, 2018

Sister Elizabeth made history in the Society of the Holy Child Jesus — she was the first American Province Leader. Her intelligence, leadership, and administrative skills made her a natural fit for this time of change in the Society and during the Catholic Church's period of renewal after Vatican II.

Sister Elizabeth's leadership role within the Society began in 1970 when she was named to the Rosemont Province's Leadership Team. Three years later, she was appointed Province Leader in the Rosemont Province. In 1976, the Society underwent a major organizational change and three separate

Provinces within the United States — New York, Rosemont, and Western (California and Oregon) — merged into one which was named the American Province. Sister Elizabeth was appointed the first Leader in the newly formed American Province, a position she held for two consecutive terms.

Following her leadership appointments, Sister Elizabeth returned to school and served in pastoral or educational ministries in Michigan and Massachusetts, including Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, MA. At Weston, she worked as the Acting Director of Supervising Ministries and then Dean of Students. Throughout her life, former students and colleagues remained in contact with her. She was loved and respected by many.



Margaret Naab, SHCJ

(Mother Mary Alacoque)

May 16, 1921 – April 2, 2018

Sister Margaret lived fully and contributed generously throughout her 75 years as a Holy Child Sister. A gifted artist, she never believed that art should be a private subject. Seeing beauty everywhere, she taught art, studied it, encouraged young

artists, and even opened an art studio at West Catholic Girls High School, her alma mater. In 1970, Sister Margaret was the first woman invited to teach at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wyncamore, PA. She taught Christian Art in the Theology Division for more than two decades. In later years, her outreach included Saint Thomas of Villanova Parish, as well as the inner-city program for feeding the homeless at Old Saint Joseph Church.

2018 - 2019 ANNUAL GIVING

Love & Serve

The Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus serve others through educational, social justice, spiritual and healing ministries.

Your donation supports our mission — to help others to believe that God lives and acts in them and in our world, and to rejoice in God's presence.



Donate online at www.shcj.org/american/donate

Donations can also be mailed to:
Society of the Holy Child Jesus, American Province
1341 Montgomery Avenue | Rosemont, PA 19010



Your support gives hope and joy to those we serve!

Reunions



Above: In July of 2017, the **SHCJ Western Noviceship** had a reunion in Portland, OR, with current and former SHCJ



Above: **Holy Child Academy in Waukegan, IL, Class of 1967**, celebrated their 50th Anniversary Reunion on August 20, 2017



Left: **Saint Mary of Melrose High School, Class of 1967**, celebrated their 50th Anniversary Reunion in Ipswich, MA, in September 2017



Above: **Saint Edward Parish School** alumnae Eileen Glancey Tepper '58, Margaret Riley Campbell '62, and Mary Ann English Cunniff '58, attend their annual alumnae breakfast in March of 2018



Left: **Holy Child Academy in Sharon Hill, PA, Class of 1972**, celebrated their 45th Anniversary Reunion on November 12, 2017



Below: Class of 1972 Alumnae from **Holy Child Academy in Sharon Hill, PA**, participated in the Walk Against Hunger at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia, PA, on April 18, 2018. (From left to right) Anne Healy Ayella, Maria Lalli, Denise Gavula Karasic, Cathi Duffy, Pat Nescio Uphoff, and Lois Fusco Replenski

Above: **Holy Child Academy in Waukegan, IL, Class of 1957**, celebrated their 60th Anniversary Reunion in September 2017



Below: Three alumnae from **Holy Child Academy in Waukegan, IL, Class of 1964**, met on May 26, 2018, to celebrate Mary Lynn Rakowski, D.S.M.P. 's Golden Jubilee in Chicago. (From left to right) Diane Forster, BVM; Mary Lynn Rakowski, D.S.M.P.; and Mary Ellen Green, OP



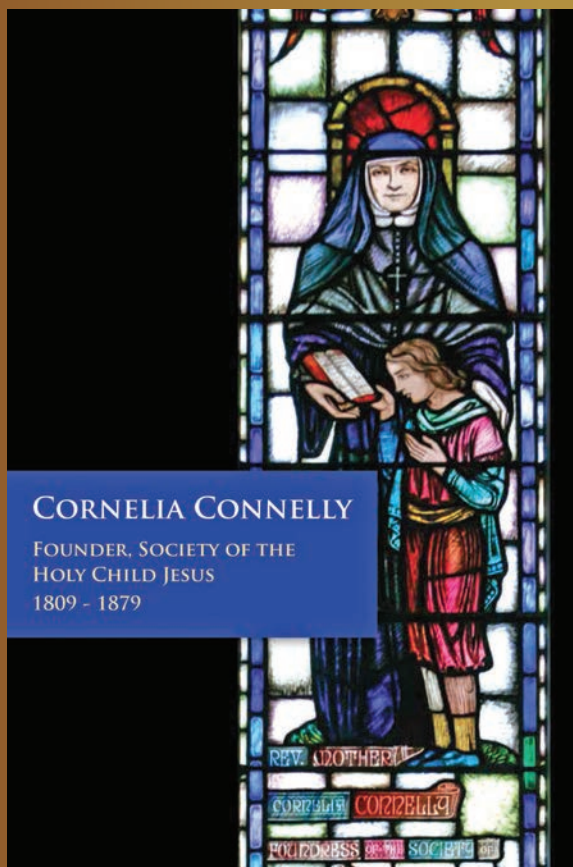
Above: **Rosemont Senior School Alumnae** recently came to Holy Child Center to work on an art project with Sisters at Holy Child Center. Anne Galbally Kelly '71 (left) and Minna Walsh '68 (right) pose with



Inez Berger, SHCJ, who helped arrange the collaged flowers for the mixed media project



THE LIFE OF CORNELIA CONNELLY



by Judith "Judy" Talvacchia
is now available in English and Spanish!

*To receive a copy, please send an e-mail
to holychildsisters@shcj.org.*

"Thank you so much for the book on Cornelia Connelly. I first read about Cornelia during my school days at St. Leonard's. After that, she remained a huge part of my life. Many times my children heard her quotes, especially "be yourself but make that self just what our Lord wants it to be." My husband and I both read the book and then discussed it. Now I will pass it on to others and trust that Cornelia will also inspire them."

- Nannette

"The book is beyond informative. Every page captivated me. Kudos to Judith A. Talvacchia! I shall keep my copy on the coffee table for the rest of my eighty-four years! The twelve of which have made me ever grateful for the education the Holy Child Sisters imparted to me."

- Katharine

Lovely PRAYER CARDS from the Holy Child Sisters



The Holy Child Sisters' prayer cards are available. These cards provide a meaningful way to remember and honor your friends and family in times of sorrow or happiness, including special occasions such as a birthday, anniversary, or new job. The Sisters find joy in knowing that their prayers serve as a source of love and support.

*To request a supply of prayer cards, please contact the Sisters at holychildsisters@shcj.org or 610.626.1400, or visit the Province's website at www.shcj.org/american. Any donations received through this program are directed to the Holy Child ministries. **Thank you!***





Congratulations to Caroline Beit, a 2018 graduate of School of the Holy Child in Rye, NY.

Caroline's college essay was one of five "that stood out" in a national contest and published in the *New York Times*!



"Nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes."

Not only do Benjamin Franklin's words still resonate today, but, if you are like most, filing income taxes is simply unpleasant. For me, however, preparing taxes has been a telescopic lens with which to observe the disparate economic realities present in our society. In looking through this lens, I have seen firsthand how low wages and, at times, regressive public policy can adversely impact the financially fragile, and how I can make a difference.

This coming year will be my third volunteering every Saturday during tax season with AARP's Tax-Aide Program. In the basement of the Morningside Heights Library in Manhattan, we help the elderly and low-income individuals file their taxes. During my first season, I handled organizational tasks and assisted intake counselors with the initial interview process.

When I told the AARP manager that I wanted to return the following season and do actual tax preparation, she was skeptical, especially since the next youngest tax preparer at my location was 37. That, however, did not deter me: Though I would be just 16 before the start of the season, I diligently studied the material and passed the advanced I.R.S. qualification test.

As a volunteer, my goal is to help my clients obtain every credit they are entitled to and place vitally needed money in their pockets. To do this, I need much more than just technical knowledge. It is also essential to connect on a human level. I make it a point to put each person at ease by actively listening to his or her story.

For example, the young woman, who is a recently minted United States citizen and barely speaks English, mentions that her disabled grandmother lives with her. Her story allows me to determine she can claim

a dependent care credit for her grandmother and a \$1,000 earned income credit. These credits represent approximately 20 percent of her income and will go toward buying her grandmother's medications and other necessities.

I am saddened at times by the palpable stress of those living on the edge of economic subsistence. Basic necessities such as sneakers and dental care, which I had never thought twice about, are out of reach for many. I vividly remember the single mom from Queens who works at Target and spent \$400 (a week's paycheck) at H&R Block last year. By not having to pay for tax preparation this year and the credits she can claim, she confided she will be able to buy her son, who is my age, new shoes for track and hopefully see a dentist for a tooth that has been throbbing for months.

As a volunteer, I have learned the importance of empathizing, listening and communicating complex and technical matters simply. Making my clients feel at ease allows them to understand my explanation of how their money is being taxed. I have also gained insight into how tax policy affects the financial and physical health of the working poor and elderly. While I have not changed the tax system (though someday I plan to), I have changed how my clients interact with it. Beyond Benjamin Franklin's two certainties in life of death and taxes, I would add a third: the enduring power of the human spirit. I remember an octogenarian man with a cane who waited two hours in line on a bone-chillingly rainy Saturday in February. He is somehow able to survive in Manhattan on \$15,000 of Social Security earnings a year. Even though his income is below the filing requirement, together we claim \$77 of school tax and rent credits, which translates into two weeks of groceries.

When we finish, he says to me, "See you next year." It is at that moment I know I have made a tangible difference.

Caroline S. Beit '18, School of the Holy Child, Rye, NY



Society of the Holy Child Jesus

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Rosemont, PA 19010

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Holy Child Ministries

The Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus and their colleagues serve in educational, social justice, and spiritual and healing ministries. The Society of the Holy Child Jesus sponsors the ministries below.

CALIFORNIA

Casa Cornelia Law Center
(San Diego)
Cornelia Connelly School of the Holy Child
(Anaheim)
Mayfield Junior School
of the Holy Child Jesus
(Pasadena)
Mayfield Senior School
of the Holy Child Jesus
(Pasadena)
South Central Los Angeles
Ministry Project
(Los Angeles)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington School for Girls

ILLINOIS

Cristo Rey St. Martin College Prep
(Waukegan)

MARYLAND

Connelly School of the Holy Child
(Potomac)

NEW JERSEY

Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child
(Summit)

NEW YORK

Cornelia Connelly Center
(New York City)
Cristo Rey New York High School
(New York City)

Holy Child Academy
(Old Westbury)
School of the Holy Child
(Rye)
UNANIMA International
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African Sisters Education Collaborative
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(Drexel Hill)
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(Rosemont)
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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Holy Child Elementary School,
Fe y Alegría
(Santo Domingo)
Our Lady of Good Counsel Dispensary,
Fe y Alegría
(Santo Domingo)

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changed your e-mail
address?**

**Please send your
updated information
to actions@shcj.org.**

Save the Date

**Appreciation Mass & Reception,
Melrose, MA
Sunday, October 14, 2018**

**Christmas Sing-A-Long
Holy Child Center, Rosemont, PA
December 1, 2018**

**Advent Event, Rosemont, PA
December 2, 2018**

**Holy Child Awards Dinner,
Pennsylvania
Thursday, March 28, 2019**

**For more information,
please contact Tara Zoltek at
tzoltek@shcj.org
or 610.626.1400**