

save the date!

2022

Carondelet Celebration

Supporting Networks of Hope & Healing

Friday, May 6, 2022 ♦ InterContinental MSP Hotel

Join the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and Consociates for a festive evening to celebrate and support the Sisters' network of ministries in our community.



bold mo es

for real change

Editor's Note

The new year has begun, and winter is in full swing. Some of us are embracing the season by pursuing outdoor winter activities, while others are bundling up and spending time at home or heading for warmer climates. The Sisters of St. Joseph Ministries Foundation remains hard at work supporting the mission to "love the dear neighbor without distinction." Students from Learning In Style have resumed online classes after the holiday break. St. Mary's Health Clinics continue to provide necessary healthcare, health education, and vaccine clinics to local communities. St. Joseph Workers are deeply engaged at their community and placement sites. The residents at Sarah's... an Oasis for Women continue to develop new skills, and nurture confidence, hope, and determination for a better life and future. We thank you for your generous gifts and pledges over the past year and look forward to seeing you in 2022.

Wishing you peace and wellness,

Ralph Scorpio

Alyssa Howells

Lacy Sietsema

Coming Soon: 2022 Carondelet Celebration!

As we experience winter and another Covid surge, our hearts turn to spring and the promise of getting together at our 2022 Carondelet Celebration on **Friday, May 6**, at the InterContinental Minneapolis – St. Paul Airport Hotel.

This year's celebration will be a fantastic event highlighting the ministries of the Sisters of St. Joseph and featuring the music of Jearlyn, Jevetta, and Billy Steele. Our celebration will also feature a delicious dinner, a silent and live auction, and other fun activities.

We hope and pray Covid will be more manageable by May and with a mandatory vaccination requirement the Celebration will be a safe and enjoyable event. If that can't happen, stay tuned for further details about a virtual celebration.

Please save the date!

We are grateful for our 2022
Carondelet Celebration
lead sponsors:



Meet the Gardeners: Barb Parisien

By Hannah White

Barb Parisien started gardening at the Celeste's Dream community garden in 2006 and has come back every year since. Rain or shine, warm or chilly, Barb is there every Tuesday night during the growing season.

"Every year is just a little bit different," she says, but the sense of community and camaraderie among the gardeners keeps her coming back year after year. Barb also appreciates that there's always more to learn in the garden, and not just about plants and soil. She says she didn't realize food insecurity was a growing issue on college campuses until the Celeste's Dream Community Garden started donating produce to the St. Kate's/ CSJ Food Access Hub (formerly known as the St. Kate's/CSJ Food Shelf). Being a part of Celeste's Dream's food justice work was eye-opening for her.

Barb is an artist. While she does have a home studio for her painting practice, she also brings her artistic talents to the garden. She starts marigold and zinnia seedlings in her home in the spring and brings them to the garden at the start of the season to make the plot of land visually attractive as well as productive. However, she does face challenges.

"What do I like the least? When the weeds take over," she says. But despite the weeds, gardening is a deeply spiritual practice for Barb. Working with plants and soil prompts her to contemplate the circle of life, death and rebirth. She also sees gardening as an opportunity to talk with God.

"God is in the garden," says Barb. "I'm down on my knees and praying. I might be planting seedlings, but to me that's a form of prayer."

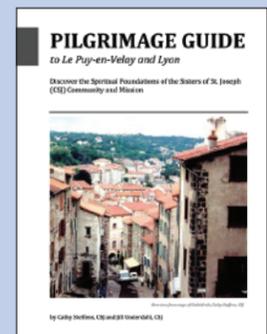
Thank you, Barb, for all the beauty you bring to our garden community!



Barb Parisien

Walk in the CSJ Footsteps

Sisters Cathy Steffens, CSJ and Jill Underdahl, CSJ invite you to experience their new digital book: **Pilgrimage Guide to Le Puy-en-Velay and Lyon.**



Whether in person or at distance, on your own or with a group, enjoy this pilgrimage to the spiritual foundations of the Sisters of St. Joseph (CSJ). Along the way

learn and experience practices of CSJ mission and spirituality. For centuries before the rise of Christianity in France, the geography of Le Puy-en-Velay stirred human imaginations and wonder about the Sacred.

Visit goodgroundpress.com/product/pilgrimage-guide-to-le-puy-en-velay-and-lyon to place your order today.

Sarah's... an Oasis for Women

Sarah's... an Oasis for Women is a home dedicated to the safety and dignity of a diverse community of women who have survived violence, abuse, torture, war, discrimination, and trauma. At Sarah's, women begin new lives through programs that build self-esteem, self-sufficiency, confidence, determination, and community. Sarah's works to connect its residents to social services, education opportunities, job preparedness training, and necessary medical care.

One of Sarah's mantras is "You come to Sarah's in order to leave," reminding the residents that Sarah's is a first step toward a new, self-reliant life. A number of Sarah's residents have bought their own homes, and many have reunited their family members from their home countries with them.

Originally from Liberia, Dorcas lived at Sarah's from 2013 - 2016. She said that her time spent at Sarah's felt like "home" and that the Director, Cheryl Behrent, "...was such a good mentor and we would meet with her to set goals, I never knew what goals were. Little by little I came to know what they were and one of the goals I set for myself was to one day own a home."

In 2016 both of Dorcas' daughters reunited with her in St. Paul, and they purchased a house in 2019. Dorcas and her daughters look forward to their new lives in their new home.



Dorcas celebrating the holidays with a festive tree in her home.

Ministry Highlights



St. Mary's Health Clinics reflects back on 2021, recognizing that no day is alike and the learning opportunities are endless. In recent months, it has served nearly 2,000 patients, most of whom live in the Twin Cities area. SMHC has coordinated more than 100 COVID vaccine clinics and administered more than 10,000 doses, as well as set up 3,000 flu vaccines.

In order to fund these activities, SMHC was awarded over \$450,000 in revenue from different grants throughout 2021. All of this is accomplished by a devoted staff who have a wide variety of clinical experience. As SMHC moves into 2022, it is excited to continue to provide services and healthcare to those whose means are limited and whose voices are often unheard.



The St. Joseph Workers spent time in December learning about homelessness in the Twin Cities with St. Stephen's Human Services. They will continue to explore homelessness and advocate for change in the months ahead with JRLC, the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition.

After the holidays, the St. Joseph Workers are looking forward to regathering at the Mid-Year Retreat, in the tradition of the Sisters of St Joseph. So far in this program year, the SJWs have served more than 3,420 hours in our community!



Sarah's... an Oasis for Women

Sarah's... an Oasis for Women has been busy with the holiday season. Sarah's celebrates holidays and holy-days through February because of the diversity of cultures and nationalities of its residents. In December, it set up two Christmas trees and organized an ornament crafting table for residents to come, design an ornament, and hang their finished product on one of the lighted trees. A lighting ceremony was performed that shared the story of light around the world, particularly in countries of origin of their residents, and how it is used for decoration during the December and January holidays.

Throughout December, Sarah's collected all of the holiday donations they received from generous individuals and groups. The staff thanks everyone who has donated or will be donating items throughout the year! **Would you like to donate items?** Please submit your information at the bottom of the page at: sarahsoasis.org/donation-items.



Always moving toward the profound love of God and neighbor without distinction, the Justice Commission and our partners at Carondelet Village have been focusing on poverty as the legislative session begins January 31. They will raise their voices to make a difference in the lives of our dear neighbors by seeking investment in anti-poverty initiatives.



Learning In Style has been busy helping students obtain household necessities and providing financial assistance for emergencies.

It continues to deepen the relationship between its campus and Blake School. Both schools recently participated in an "Art as a Gift" project. This involved Blake School art students who visited the LIS campus to create portraits of LIS students and staff. Through this project, Blake School students were able to make connections with the students and staff of the LIS community and learn about their different experiences.



Celeste's Dream had a very busy fall season. It distributed 10,583.5 lbs of food to the St. Kate's/ CSJ Food Shelf, and served 562 clients, including 187 new clients. Celeste's Dream is currently getting ready for its 2022 season:

February 1, 5-7 p.m.
Garden planning and soup dinner

March 29, 5-7 p.m.
Seed starting

April 26, 5-7 p.m.
Seedling transplanting

April 30, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
CSJ Earth Day

May 17 or 24, 5-7 p.m.
Plant the Garden

Late May - October, Tuesdays, 5-7 p.m.
Gather to tend and harvest the Garden

All are welcome to attend these events.



Wisdom Ways Center for Spirituality has just launched its brand-new website! Feel free to explore wisdomwayscenter.org, check out the labyrinth rentals, find the digital issue of the most recent catalog or book a private session in our re-opened Spirituality Library. You'll also discover event details and online registration for its new Spring 2022 programming. In the new year, Wisdom Ways is redoubling its commitment to interfaith work with its Sharing Muslim Stories series concluding with an Iftar Dinner. Hedgerow Institute will be examining Disability Theology, and Writing the Scared Memoir is back.

Wisdom Ways is delighted and exceedingly grateful to the Ministries Foundation for a \$50,000 grant from Partners in Ministry. Starting soon, Wisdom Ways Center will be using these funds to develop an Audio/Visual digital studio space to expand their content creation options, reach a broader audience, and ideally, create new revenue streams.



St. Kate's / CSJ Food Shelf



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csjministriesfoundation.org



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