



**Historical Art Exhibit**  
**October 24, 2008 to**  
**March 20, 2009\***

Windhover Center  
 for the Arts,  
 51 Sheboygan St.  
 Fond du Lac, WI

Public invited for  
 Opening Reception  
 October 24th at  
 6:00 p.m.

*\*See cover for details*

 **CSA**  
 Congregation of Sisters of Saint Agnes  
*Promoting Justice, Building Community*

320 County Road K  
 Fond du Lac, WI 54935

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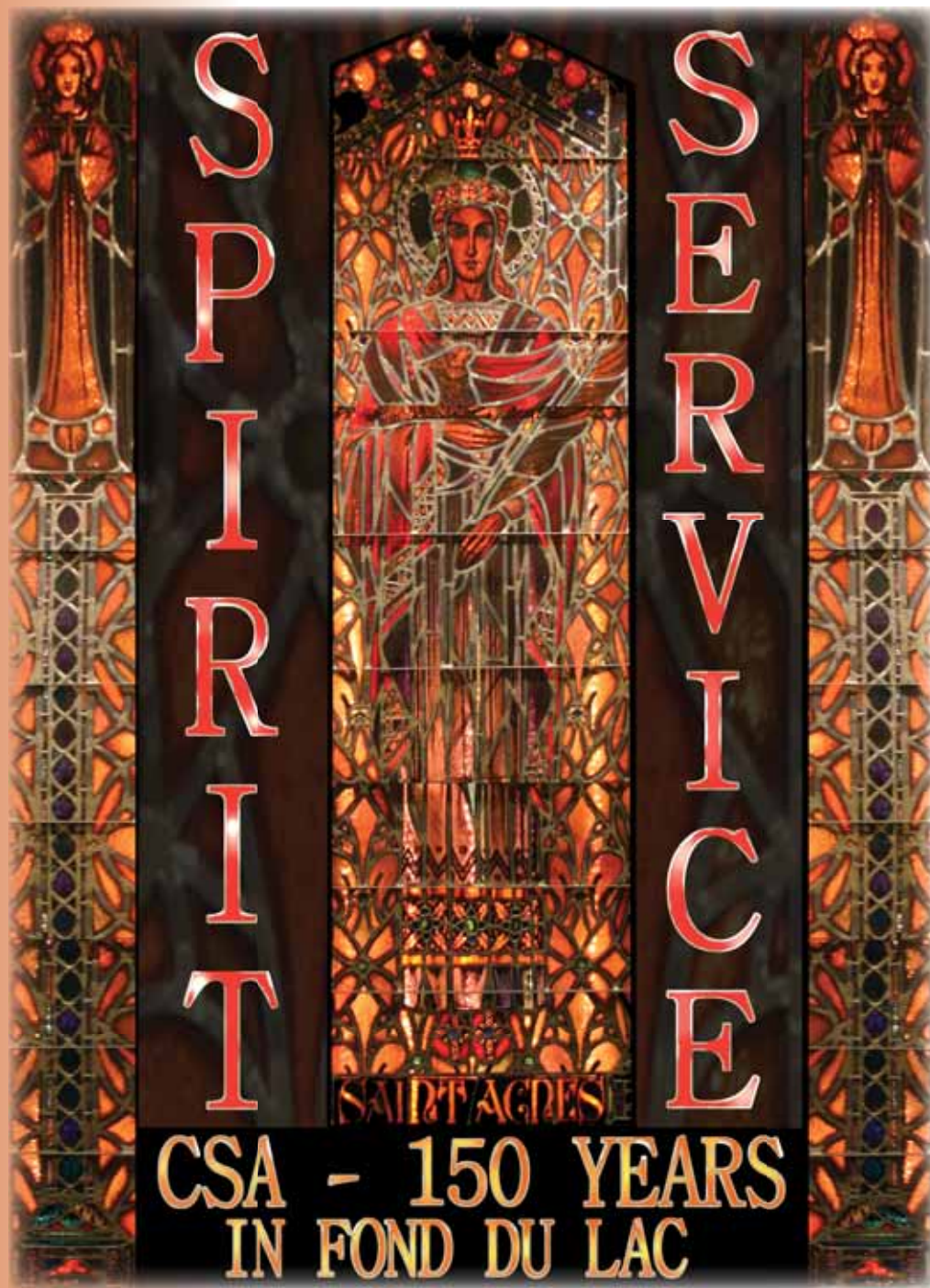


# Blessings

CONGREGATION OF SISTERS OF ST. AGNES

Fall 2008

a newsletter for benefactors and friends of the Sisters of St. Agnes



*The pinnacle of our 150th anniversary celebration will take place on October 24, 2008, when Windhover Center for the Arts, Fond du Lac opens its doors to reveal an extraordinary historical exhibit. It will feature the congregation's unique collection of art and artifacts dating back to the 19th century.*

A Celebration of 150 Years of  
 Spirit and Service  
 Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes

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*\*Exhibit hours are subject to change - please call ahead 920.921.5410 or check the website for further details.*

[www.windhovercenter.com](http://www.windhovercenter.com)

## In Memoriam... walking with God



**Sister Raymond (Bernadette) Griebel, CSA**  
 May 9, 2008

*She lived her dream of becoming a missionary in Latin America where she served for 40 dedicated years. Her love for the missions influenced many people and leaders in Latin America.*



**Sister Leonissa (Eulalia) Karlin, CSA**  
 May 18, 2008

*Patience, simplicity and serving others were cornerstones of her commitment to devoting 50 years as food service director. Her smile, gentleness and generous heart will be remembered.*



**Sister Rosalia (Christine) Costello, CSA**  
 July 29, 2008

*She was a gentle, loving woman graced with a quick wit, leadership skills, and ministered as a nurse, and parish nurse. She will be missed as a mentor and friend to many.*



**Sister Anne (Francis) Wirtz, CSA**  
 September 11, 2008

*Her love for journalism and literature was reflected in her dedication to teaching and tutoring students. She will be remembered as a gentle woman with a keen sense of humor; a teacher who took personal interest in each of her students; and as a deeply spiritual woman.*



*We invite you to give a gift in honor of, or in memory of, an individual who has been a blessing in your life by filling in his/her name in the center portion of the leaf that is to be clipped out and returned in the enclosed envelope. Your leaf, that holds your loved one's name, will be displayed on the "tree of life," and the sisters will offer special prayers for this individual who has served as a colorful "blessing" in your life.*

You may access additional leaves on our website:  
[www.csasisters.org](http://www.csasisters.org)

ONLINE DONATIONS: Secure online donations are now possible. Please visit our website at [www.csasisters.org](http://www.csasisters.org) for more information on online giving and supporting CSA's ministries.



### Dear Friends . . .

We now enter our 150th Anniversary grand finale – a spectacular conclusion of a year-long celebration that includes all of you who attended our festivities, concerts, and ceremonies. Your presence, participation, and support have brought joy beyond measure to all of us throughout this special year. As an expression of gratitude, we'd like to invite you to the "CSA: 150 Years of Spirit and Service" historical art exhibit at the Windhover Center for the Arts in Fond du Lac which will begin October 24, 2008, and remain on display through March 27, 2009. This unique historical exhibit will feature art and artifacts of the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes. For more information, please visit our website [www.csasisters.org](http://www.csasisters.org).

As part of our anniversary grand finale, we will be creating a "tree of life" that will be on display in the chapel at the motherhouse and Nazareth Court and Center. This tree will hold the colorful leaf that you see on the back page of this newsletter, each one representing a person who has served as a special blessing in someone's life. We invite you to give a gift in honor of, or in memory of, an individual who has been a blessing in your life by filling in his/her name in the center portion of the leaf that is to be clipped out and returned in the enclosed envelope. (If you have more than one name to add to a leaf, please enclose a list of names and we will insert them on additional leaves for the tree.) Your leaf that holds your loved one's name will be displayed on the "tree of life," and the sisters will offer special prayers for this individual who has served as a colorful "blessing" in your life.



In gratitude,  
*Sister Deborah Walter*  
Director of Development

### The gift of living a fulfilled life

"It is a happy surprise!" exclaimed Sister Helen Pape when asked how she feels about her 100th birthday. Born February 28, 1908, in Evanston, IL, Sister Helen grew up with five brothers and sisters. She entered the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes in Fond du Lac, WI, following high school. Sister Helen earned her teaching degree from Marian College in Fond du Lac and taught elementary school from 1930 to 1978. "I taught all of the grades from grade 1 to 8, but my favorite was 1st grade." Her career took her to thirteen parishes, including: Harlem, NY; Two Rivers, WI; Muncie, IN; and Evanston, IL.

She recalls that her students referred to her as a kind and creative teacher.

Prior to retiring, Sister Helen's closing ministry called her to visit elderly church members of St. Nicholas Parish in Evanston. Presently, she lives at the retirement community, Nazareth Center, in Fond du Lac with other retired members of the congregation. She is known for her happy disposition and her gentle, peaceful spirit.

Sister Helen is grateful to God for the gift of a long life.

- Sister Helen Pape, CSA



Sister Helen

### CSA associates and friends journey to Nicaragua

Seven CSA associates and friends will visit ministries in Nicaragua in November to learn about the cultural issues and concerns in relationship to the impact that CSA has on the people in this country. If you are interested in joining our group in 2009 and would like more information, please contact Ellen Swan, Director of Associates, at 920.907.2318 or [eswan@csasisters.org](mailto:eswan@csasisters.org).

### One year after Hurricane Felix

Those of us who minister in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua, extend deep gratitude to each person who offered gifts of prayers and monetary donations for the rebuilding of our schools following the destruction of Hurricane Felix on September 4, 2007. The two schools, Colegio Niño Jesús, and the Maureen Courtney Special Education Center, have benefitted tremendously from donations that yielded reconstruction of roof tops and classrooms. We are, however, still in need of doors, windows, and paint to protect the buildings' interior and exterior from the elements. Protective fences are needed for both



schools because they are positioned so closely to the ocean which poses security risks for our students.

In this past year, not only have we experienced the traumatic after effects of Hurricane Felix, but we also witnessed many blessings such as the collaboration of parents, city workers, teachers, families, and friends. The commitment and cooperation of those who helped served to lower the cost of labor so that we could responsibly stretch your donations to purchase more construction materials and building supplies. One of the most vivid sights that personified hope and renewal happened as we celebrated the Independence of Nicaragua holiday. It was emotionally thrilling to witness the Maureen Courtney Center students proudly marching in the parade with their newly painted and repaired drums. The thunder of the drums resonated within our hearts, and once again, we celebrated the abundant blessings brought about by your generous gifts.

We wish blessings upon all whose donations serve to promote the integral education of the Nicaraguan children and youth.

- Sister Katie Schilling, CSA



Sister Josephine Goebel

### Blessings within Navajo Tradition

The Navajo Indian Reservation is the largest reservation in the United States, covering over 27,000 miles in New Mexico and Arizona. Members of the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes have lived and worked in the Gallup Diocese located in New Mexico and Arizona for over 30 years. The Sisters have taught in both public and Catholic schools, worked in health care, and parish ministries.

Sister Josephine Goebel has ministered on the reservation as a Pastoral Minister and Director of Religious Education for the past 20 years. "It is an honor and privilege to be invited into the lives of the Navajos. Over the years I have come to know many Navajo families. The Navajo people are a very prayerful people and have a prayer for everything – for the dying of yarn, for traveling, and the start of a new day. Prayer is woven throughout their daily lives," shared Sister Josephine.

The unemployment rate is 43% in this area, and it is not uncommon for people to come to our convent door needing food. "As Sisters of St. Agnes, we strive to support these people who are in great need. We could not fulfill CSA's mission without your generosity and prayers."

- Sister Josephine Goebel, CSA

At a recent baptism at St. Michael's, the parents came with their son on a "cradle board".