



CSA Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes
Promoting Justice, Building Community

Annual Report

OCTOBER 2016 - SEPTEMBER 2017

LETTER FROM SR. JEAN

Dear Friends in Mission,

Many people are familiar with a mission statement, but charism can be much harder to understand. At its root it means "a good gift that flows from God's love to God's people." The Sisters of St. Agnes strive to live our mission and charism. We understand our charism, the gift of God's love to us, as "responding to those whose faith life and human dignity are threatened." Our mission is to share that love of God with others.

Our sisters express God's care and love to others through the events of their daily lives and the ministries in which they are involved. CSA sisters minister to diverse groups of people, and are always enriched by those they serve. You will find the sisters in a variety of geographic areas, rural and urban in both the United States and Nicaragua.

In partnering with us through your generous donations you also express that mission and charism in your lives. You allow God's love to flow through you to God's children. You help to make the reign of God a reality in our world. We are very grateful for your support. The help you give on behalf of our senior sisters makes it possible for them to continue ministering in areas where they receive only a stipend. You are always in our prayers, and Mass is offered for you twice a month in our motherhouse chapel.

As we look to the future, we invite you to continue to join us in our mission and charism to "respond to those whose faith life and human dignity are threatened." May God bless and reward you.

In the peace and love of Christ,

Sister Jean Steffes, C.S.A.

Sister Jean Steffes, CSA
General Superior

PROGRAMS

CARE OF SENIOR SISTERS – SISTERS OF ST. AGNES

- Volunteer as long as able in
 - Schools
 - Hospice programs
 - Homeless shelters
 - Social service agencies
- Are conscientious and prudent stewards of resources
- Have limited funds and rising costs for healthcare
- Rely on the generosity of others to provide for our retired sisters



Sister Rose André enjoys quilting and sharing her creative quilts with others.

UNITED STATES – SISTERS OF ST. AGNES



Sister Lael, pastoral associate at St. Helen's, Amory, MS visits with a patient.

- Have engaged with people in communities throughout the United States for more than 150 years
- Touch the lives of many with dedication and commitment to their mission
- Believe in the inherent dignity of all God's people
- Provide direct services
- Advocate for changes at all levels in social services, healthcare, and education
- Work tirelessly to meet the needs of underserved populations in some of the poorest communities in the nation
- Rely on the generosity of others to help provide for our sisters working in poor communities

NICARAGUA – SISTERS OF ST. AGNES

- Began their ministry in Latin America in 1945
- Minister in villages on the east coast and in the area of Managua in Nicaragua
- Provide education, healthcare, pastoral guidance, and social services to the needy
- Help to promote self-sufficiency
- Rely on the generosity of others to help provide for our sisters



Sister Petrona, principal of Colegio Niño Jesús, proudly stands with a student and his parents at a 6th grade promotion ceremony.

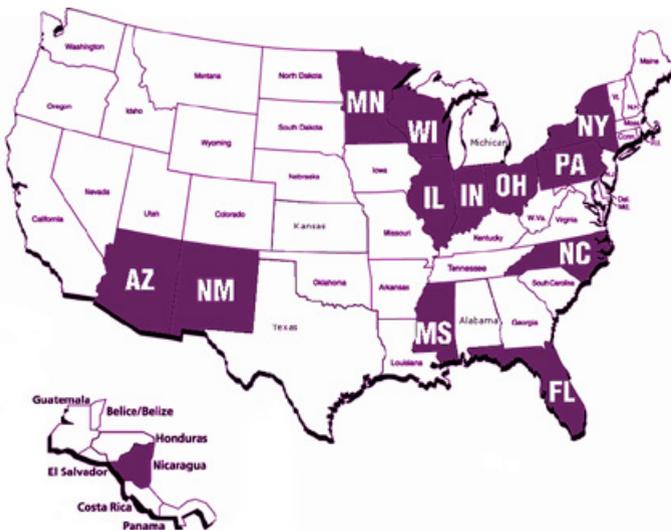
GENERAL CHAPTER

In June 2017 we Sisters of St. Agnes held our General Chapter, which takes place every four years. At a General Chapter we gather to set direction for our future. In the year prior to the Chapter we met to pray, discuss, and bring up topics we felt were important to our future. From these meetings all the information was brought to the Chapter body for further prayer, discussion, and decisions.

At this time, we also elected leadership for the next four years. Sister Jean Steffes was re-elected as General Superior. Serving with her are Sisters Rhea Emmer (General Vicar), Susan Seeby, and Cyndi Nienhaus (General Councilors). Our leadership team will use the General Chapter Statement and other pertinent information to plan for the next four years. They will engage the sisters and others in further planning and action to carry out our mission and charism.

For nearly 160 years the Sisters of St. Agnes have listened to God's call. Sometimes we seemed to have no preparation to do the ministry needed, but we made it work. We went places where others would not go. Our ministries have changed over the years as we stayed open to the Spirit's guidance. Today we embrace this call again and articulate our identity as it is interwoven with the 21st century. We face our future with honesty and hope as we minister in twelve U.S. States and one foreign country. We bring the message of God's love to students, parishioners, immigrants, the poor, the sick, and the dying. We share the presence of God through our work

in the arts, education, healthcare, social services, and spiritual direction. We carry out our mission even in our retirement as we suffer and wait to go home to God. It may look different today from how it did 160 years ago, but the mission is the same and the God we serve is the same.

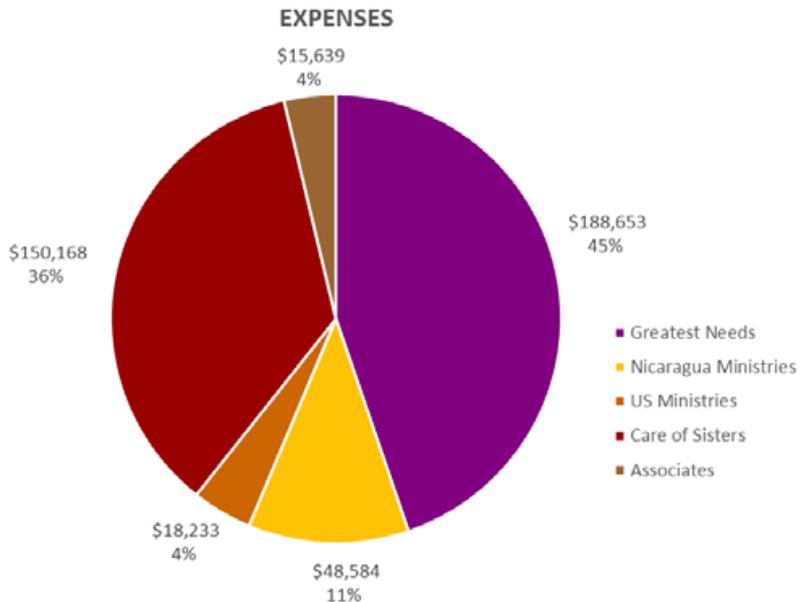
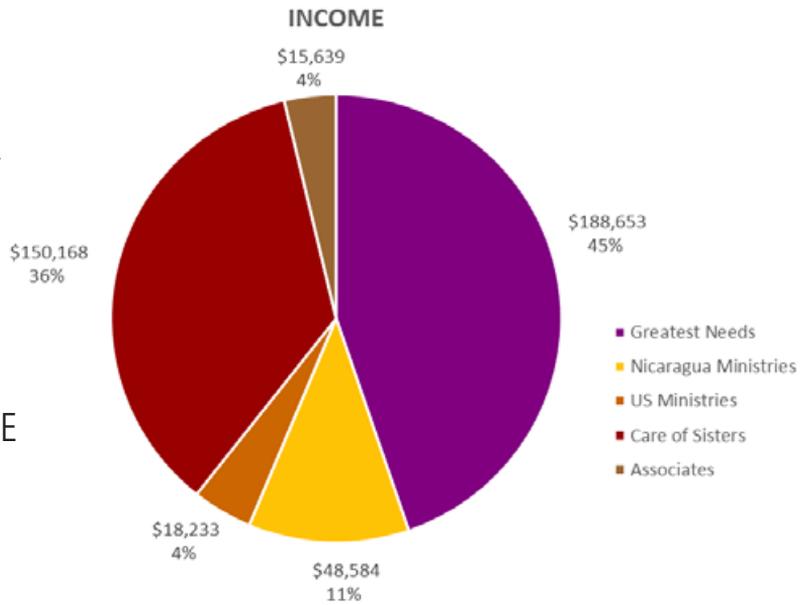


FISCAL FACTS

October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017

100% OF
YOUR DONATION
GOES TO THE CSA
CHARITY OF
YOUR CHOICE.

DONATIONS OF
ANY AMOUNT ARE
APPRECIATED.



TOTAL DONORS: 1,016

NEW DONORS: 292

TOTAL GIVING: \$420,626.17

STATEMENT OF MISSION

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We, the Sisters of St. Agnes, participate in the mission of Christ by joyful service in the Church, always aware that we, too, are among the needy and are enriched by those we serve.

Inspired by our founders--by the missionary zeal of Father Caspar Rehrl, the courageous initiatives of Mother Agnes Hazotte and the spiritual influence of Father Francis Haas--we continue to respond in our own times to those whose faith life or human dignity is threatened.

Rooted in Christ through prayer and worship we serve in both rural and urban settings throughout the United States and in Latin America.

We strive to minister with simplicity and hospitality in the fields of education, health care, pastoral ministry and social service.

We are committed to transformation of the world, the Church and ourselves through promoting

- *systemic change for the quality of life*
- *justice for the economically poor*
- *furtherance of the role of women in church and society*
- *mutuality, inclusivity and collaboration.*

Love binds us together, and by sharing our lives and our faith in community, we support one another to live with singleness of purpose: that among us and in our world the Risen Christ be discovered and revealed.

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