

**Sister Christi Ann
Gallup, New Mexico**



The Gallup (New Mexico) Diocese is the poorest Catholic diocese in the United States. Sister Christi Ann Laudolff chose to move to Gallup in 2010 and teach because it is considered a “mission” diocese. Gallup is an area that is economically depressed with a large population of Native Americans and Hispanic people. The Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes has been committed to working as missionaries in the southwest and Latin America. They follow the example of Mother Agnes Hazotte, one of the founders of CSA, who was known for her pioneering spirit.

“I have two groups of senior high school students in my physics classes who are just fired up about science and very eager to learn. My ultimate goal is to get these students to think and to discover the wonders of the world” shared Sister Christi Ann. “Nothing is more satisfying than to hear comments of “Oh! That’s how this works” in a lab class. “I am privileged to see firsthand the opening of their minds and feeling their excitement when a new concept is taken in and embraced.

“My teaching style is student centered. It is based on having the students discover for themselves and build on what they learn while applying that learning to general problem solving,” said Sister Christi Ann.

“To keep myself renewed, I have coffee with God every morning. I also take time to meditate each day and, when possible, attend daily mass. I live in community with Sister René Backe and we pray together daily” continued Sister Christi Ann. “Another life-giving gift of teaching at Gallup Catholic High School is the staff begins each day together in prayer. This has not been the case in other schools I have taught at and it is a wonderful way to build community together.”