Rediscovering our Interdependence
Founders’ Day Liturgy & Reception
Honoring our Founders and Celebrating our Sister
Laura Donovan, RDC
President
50th Jubilee

Saturday, June 22, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.
Chapel of the Divine Compassion
52 North Broadway · White Plains, NY

· Founders ·
Monsignor Thomas Preston · Mother Mary Veronica

Advancement Team
Cathy S. Nolan, Director of Advancement
Elizabeth Vazquez, Advancement Associate
Felicitas Russell, RDC

Special Thanks
Special thanks to those that contributed to this publication:
Sisters of the Divine Compassion Leadership Team
Rebecca Boivin
Robert Buchanan Photography
Mike Daly
Tracy Ritter
Theresa Young, RDC
Dear Friends,

Our Foundress, Mother Mary Veronica, encouraged the formation of self-reliant, spiritual women who themselves would reveal God’s compassionate presence in the world. In living our mission, we have received countless blessings, more than we could ever imagine. We are filled with gratitude for a rich and graced history, and hope for a future full of promise.

We are especially thankful for you, our partners in mission. We continue to be deeply touched by so many of you who value your relationships and cherished memories with the Sisters, and we remain always appreciative of your unwavering support and generosity.

As we walk together into the next decade of the 21st century, we have a renewed focus on interdependence. The Sisters, Associates and Companions of the Divine Compassion partner with our colleagues, donors, and volunteers to enable the liberation and empowerment of people, especially women and children, and those marginalized, oppressed and paralyzed by lack of resources.

Our sponsored and diverse ministries serve as greenhouses for the practice of compassion. They represent our commitment to focus on mission, stewardship, and lay leadership in collaboration with dedicated administrators, staff, Board members and volunteers.

Our newly formed Health Care Team remains critical to our community’s well-being and longevity. They work collaboratively to address the immediate and ongoing health care needs of our Sisters so they can live in mission longer, more safely and in community with other Sisters.

Currently, we have a manageable financial base, but as compensation for our services continues to diminish due to retirement, there is a gap between the revenue and expenses. With your support, we hope to close the gap, so that we can advance our mission and legacy.

In this increasingly insular world, it is important that we continue to extend our mission as far as our energy and imagination can take us. Born of our deep interdependence, compassion is essential to human relationships and a fulfilled humanity. It is indispensable, and the path toward a just economy and a peaceful global community.

We continue to count on your generosity in order to remain a compassionate influence in the world, no matter where we are...place does not matter as much as the relationship. As our Foundress, Mother Mary Veronica advised, “Let us do our duty that lies nearest to us ... in our day, generation and in our sphere.”

Blessings,

Sr. Laura Donovan, RDC
President, Sisters of the Divine Compassion
Compassion requires interdependence. It is fitting, therefore, that the Sisters of the Divine Compassion, who have dedicated their lives to being “the compassionate presence of God in the world,” continue to receive the gift of compassion from others - spiritually, emotionally and physically.

As members of our Congregation age, we are dedicated to implementing a plan of action that will ensure the dignity and welfare of each of our Sisters, and provide her with the opportunity to continue to live the Divine Compassion mission in place.

With the assistance of consultants from the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO), the Sisters of the Divine Compassion developed a comprehensive RDC Eldercare Plan that includes an RDC Philosophy of Aging, an external assessment of every Sister, Criteria for Changing to Different Levels of Care, updated healthcare policies and an RDC Supportive/Safe Housing Plan.

“Our goal is to provide safe, supportive residence options for every member of our Congregation, so they can live in mission longer, more safely and in community with other Sisters,” the RDC Leadership Team stated.

After extensive research for housing, services offered, location and cost, the RDC identified several ideal living accommodations for our Sisters. While the majority of our Sisters continue to live independently, some live in various levels of supportive housing. Wartburg, located in Mt. Vernon, provides our Sisters with a
continuum of care options. Marian Woods, in Hartsdale, is an eldercare facility for religious communities. Sacred Heart Convent in Yonkers offers independent living with supportive services and temporary respite care for Sisters recovering from surgery or a serious medical issue. Sisters who are in need of skilled care reside at the St. Cabrini Residence in Dobbs Ferry.

In addition to housing, our Sisters receive comprehensive spiritual and physical support. The RDC Pastoral Care Team tends to Sisters’ social, spiritual and communal needs. Our accomplished, mission-driven Health Care Team, consists of two members of the RDC Leadership Team, a Director of Health Care Services, two nurses, a social worker, a convent manager, and a driver.

They address the immediate and long-term health care needs of the RDC Community. Team members work closely together to evaluate the needs of each Sister, and apply an interdisciplinary approach to her care. In addition to providing medical services, the team assesses and advocates as necessary for each of the Sisters. They provide informal counseling and support, links to community services, and implement ongoing interactive programming, such as social justice writing campaigns, a book club, pet therapy, baking, crafting and other social activities.

Living in mission and remaining active is a priority for the RDCs. The Health Care Team Director, Diane Carletti-Romer, nurses, Erin Fodero and Lynn Ryan and social worker, Francine Ferreri work interdependently to ensure our Sisters are safe,
active and getting the care and attention they need. Volunteers, Jeannie Gaston and Wendy Harnaga, support the team by providing ongoing programs and activities for the Sisters.

“Bringing the Sisters back to more of a community where they can live their mission, while procuring services they need to maintain their overall well-being is our priority,” Director of Health Care Services, Diane Carletti-Romer stated.

Jesus Molina, who has worked with the Congregation for more than a decade, recently took on the role of driver for the Sisters. He transports and escorts Sisters to doctors and other appointments, takes them shopping, helps them to run errands and attend congregational meetings and other engagements.

“I have worked for the Sisters of the Divine Compassion for more than a decade. Because they know and trust me, they are comfortable with me driving them where they need to go,” Jesus said.

“I visit Sr. Celesta at Cabrini Nursing Home once per week, and facilitate a book club and crafting holiday decorations at Sacred Heart Convent. I enjoy sharing time and meeting so many of the wonderful, smart and loving Sisters, as well as those that assist them.”

— Wendy Harnaga, Volunteer
“Having Jesus drive our Sisters enhances their quality of life,” Diane Carletti-Romer explained.

At Sacred Heart, Convent Manager, Melissa Maldonado is the liaison between the Sisters in residence and the Health Care Team. She also manages the Sisters’ activities and appointments.

“Working with the Sisters of the Divine Compassion has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career,” Melissa said. “They have touched so many people’s lives. I am thankful to work with the Health Care Team to make an impact on the Sisters’ lives in whatever way I can. I have great relationships with the Sisters that live at Sacred Heart. It is very rewarding to work in an environment where the bottom line is about caring and having compassion for one another.”

All members of the Health Care team agree that it is a privilege to work with the Sisters. “They have given so much to so many in their lives, it is our pleasure to give back to them. It is our goal to enhance their quality of life by providing them with attentive care, meaningful activities, more occasions for socialization, and most importantly, the opportunity to continue to live in mission where they are right now.”
Sr. M. St. John Delany has been tutoring students for over 60 years, and counting!

My daughters both attended Our Lady of Sorrows and Good Counsel Academy High School, so I have been connected to the Sisters of the Divine Compassion for more than 25 years. I enjoy spending time with the Sisters at Sacred Heart Convent and Cabrini Nursing Home. Sometimes we bake, write cards during the holidays or simply chat. It makes me happy to spend time with these special women.

— Jeannie Gaston, Volunteer

Sr. Betty Ann Clifford, Francine Ferreri, LCSW, Sr. Maria Teresa de Bourbon and Melissa Maldonado, Convent Manager, enjoy a trivia game

Sr. Lucille Bridgetts celebrated her 96th Birthday!
As a graduate of both Good Counsel Academy High School and Good Counsel College, Sr. Corita has always felt a special connection to the Chapel of the Divine Compassion. So, in 1978, when she became the Director of the new Center for Spiritual Renewal, it was important to Sr. Corita and the RDC Community to include Mass in the chapel as part of the retreat programs offered in the Center. Just over forty years later, Sr. Corita is still organizing Sunday Mass in the chapel. It is a responsibility she treasures.

"Using our chapel and having liturgy available is to continue the tradition that was begun by our Foundress, Mother Mary Veronica, more than 130 years ago. The chapel is a very special place for us as a Community. It has been a very blessed ministry for me," Sr. Corita said.

Interestingly, when Sr. Corita first discussed offering weekly Sunday Mass, she was told it would be near impossible, as there are numerous details involved with organizing the Liturgy. Her first challenge was to be able to identify priests who would be available on a consistent basis. Add lectors, Eucharistic ministers, a musician, choir director, and a choir to the list.

With support from Fr. Regis Armstrong, Sr. Corita worked with the Capuchin Order, who celebrated Mass at the chapel every Sunday for nearly ten years. Since that time, Jesuits, Maryknollers and local parish priests have continued the tradition.

There have been numerous musical directors and choirs, lectors and Eucharistic ministers over the years, all of whom brought their very special talents and expertise to the liturgies.

"We have always had a priest to celebrate Mass, and we have been blessed with some of the most talented musicians and singers over the years, including exceptional pianists, opera singers, and alumnae of both the high school and college. The people who choose to be involved and attend this Mass continue to have an impact on the spirituality of our chapel," Sr. Corita explained.

"Today, I know most people who attend Sunday Mass by name. It is a blessing to know each person, and it has been wonderful to witness the connections they have made from attending Mass in our chapel," Sr. Corita added.

Sunday Mass is celebrated at the Chapel of the Divine Compassion weekly at 11:30 a.m. from mid-September through mid-June.
Last October, the RDC Community hosted the annual Divine Compassion Golf Classic, celebrating the outing’s 20th Anniversary and honoring long-time friends and loyal supporters, Helen and Mike Daly.

Monsignor Preston, who guided Mother Mary Veronica in formally establishing the Congregation of the Divine Compassion, identified compassion as “seeing the needs and wants of others and filling those needs.” Mike and Helen Daly do just that! Their service has been extraordinary, and we are indebted to them for their unwavering support of so many of our ministries for over 40 years!

The Dalys are wonderful people, as evidenced by the resounding applause that greeted their introduction. “Helen is a woman who always sought out the good in others, and always made a point of recognizing that goodness,” Sr. Patricia Sheridan said. As a Trustee, Mike has shared his expertise in financial planning and management with Good Counsel Academy and Preston High School, and continues to share that exceptional gift with the RDC Community.
Divine Compassion Golf Classic!

We were delighted to welcome the more than 175 guests who joined us in support of the mission of the Sisters and to honor Helen and Mike. In celebration of the event’s 20th anniversary, the Founding Golf Committee was reunited and recognized by Sr. Laura Donovan. All of the past honorees were also in attendance, and recognized for their support and commitment to the mission of the Sisters of the Divine Compassion. The lively auction conducted by Auctioneer, Skip Morton, was a grand success, thanks to Skip’s expertise and humor, and our generous bidders!

We are ever thankful to our honorees, committee and guests whose generosity made the outing a grand success with record net proceeds of just under $100,000! Your commitment speaks volumes of your generous hearts and your trust in the ongoing mission of the Sisters of the Divine Compassion.

THANK YOU!

SAVE THE DATE!
Divine Compassion Golf Classic
October 7, 2019

RDC Golf Classic Past Honorees.
Back Row: Rev. Thomas Collins, Brother Joseph Yakimovich, OFM Cap., and John Dubbioso
Front Row: Dr. Madeline Mignone, Linda Devine, Sr. Jane Keegan, RDC, and Sr. M. Cecile Larizza, RDC
As forecasted by our actuarial studies, as Sisters age and retire, a negative gap will be created, whereby our expenses will exceed our traditional sources of revenue. This forecast is now becoming a reality; however, thanks to the support of you, our loyal donors, and positive developments in our fund raising efforts, we have been able to manage the gap.

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Benefactors

We are grateful to the donors listed on the following pages whose generosity enables us to continue in our mission, supports our numerous ministries and helps provide care for our Sisters. We pray for you and your family in thanksgiving for your loyalty, faithfulness and generosity.

The following lists include donations received by the Sisters of the Divine Compassion from October 1, 2017 through September 31, 2018.

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“We are all the patchworks of our life’s experiences and the thread that has pulsed through my days is one of faith, compassion and hope. Those are the lessons that I have learned and observed throughout my life, and my teachers, then and to this day, are the Sisters of the Divine Compassion.”

— Liz Clark
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Ms. Nancy Casey

“I have been the beneficiary of two of the missions of the Sisters of the Divine Compassion, having attended Good Counsel Elementary and Good Counsel Academy High School. Those were joyous years of growth for me, made possible by the loving investment made in me by the Sisters. I have gone on to have a solid career in the secular world, and that career has always been guided by the lessons I learned at GCA, including the value of tradition and being part of something greater than one’s self. These lessons of connectedness – learning to receive with gratitude then give back with joy – are so powerful!”

— Janis Archer
GCA Alumna - Class of ’71
Vice President Organizational Performance, New York Power Authority
Over the past four decades we have been privileged as both parents and grandparents to experience the great works by the Sisters at Our Lady of Sorrows Grade School and Good Counsel Academy High School. As volunteers, we have further witnessed their dedication and compassion in several of their other ministries, including Preston High School and the RDC Center for Counseling & Human Development. It is for these reasons that we are humbled to be able to continue to support the Sisters where possible.

— Helen and Mike Daly

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Ms. Anne Boyce

“I was introduced to the Sisters of the Divine Compassion in the mid 1970s, when we enrolled our son at Our Lady of Sorrows. We immediately felt the compassionate spirit of the Sisters and school. In my mind, the world needs more compassion. That is why I try to give back to the Sisters of the Divine Compassion by volunteering as an Associate and donating to support the mission of the RDCs.”

— Peg Cataldo
RDC Associate
“As devoted women of God for well over 130 years, the Sisters of the Divine Compassion have served as Christ did when He washed the feet of his disciples. They have given example, and their very lives in loving service. Surely, I can share what I may have to ease them in their need, for mission and in every aspect of life. Since college days, many of the Sisters have been my life-long friends.”

— Colleen A. Kelly, Ph.D.
Good Counsel College Alumna
A special thank you to all the Sisters of the Divine Compassion for their gifts of time, talent and treasure to the congregation throughout the fiscal year.

*Deceased

Despite our best efforts, some errors or omissions may have occurred during the production of this Annual Report. Please accept our sincere apology if your name has been omitted, misprinted or misspelled. We ask that you contact the Advancement Office so that we can make a correction.
On April 27, 2019, nearly 100 alumnae, representing the Classes of 1948 to 1975, attended the annual Good Counsel College Reunion. The day started with a Liturgy in the Chapel of the Divine Compassion, followed by a luncheon in the Tudor Room at Preston Hall on the grounds of Pace Law School. It was a joyous homecoming for all!

The classes of 1969 and 1959 received special recognition on their 50th and 60th anniversaries. Thirty-five members of the Class of 1969 and fifteen members of the class of 1959 gathered for this annual Reunion celebration.

Alumnae enjoyed the afternoon recalling so many happy memories with their classmates and the Sisters of the Divine Compassion. They reminisced, re-connected and shared so many of their life experiences. It was evident that the spirit of Good Counsel College lives on in the impressive alumnae who went on to accomplish so much good in the world.

As noted by the Class of 1969, “An important part of the training of our class was one which was perhaps little noticed at the time, though it produced splendid results – the silent and constant influence of the Sisters’ character on us. It was this which contributed to making us the women we became, and the women we are.”

60th Anniversary Class of 1959
Reflections on Compassion

Tracing Thin Places

In the hustle and bustle of our lives we are often challenged to pause and discover “thin places.” As referred to by Celtic Christians, thin places are those rare locales where the veil between heaven and earth is lifted.

For Sr. Alice Feeley, RDC, “Tracing Thin Places,” represents a personal journey of reflection to search for, recognize and connect to those spiritual places in her own life, as well as in the human and natural world in which we dwell.

“For me, poetry is like praying,” Sr. Alice explains. “It wakes me up and connects me with my deeper self. It can be prayerful or playful. In poetry, as in all metaphor, connections are made in unexpected, sometimes contradictory and often freeing and energizing ways.”

For many, the gift of writing and reading poetry is a shared human experience. Because every culture has poetry, we know it can bring people together on a deeply human level, generating hopefulness, peace and compassion.

Sr. Alice sees compassion requiring interdependence. “It is my hope that the book will be seen as a celebration of poetry that raises our awareness and connects us with one another and with the world around us, and, in some way, reflects our mission to be the compassionate presence of God in our world.”

Much of the poetry shared in “Tracing Thin Places” began with observation and experience of the natural beauty that surrounds us. The beach, ocean, cliffs and shorelines of Block Island were a particular inspiration for Sr. Alice. Coupling her poetry with images shared in the book is meant to not only invite the reader to personal interpretation of the poetry, but encourage us all to open our eyes and hearts to the life within and around us so that we may discover thin places.

We Walk the Road Together

It is difficult to consider the plight of migrants without being moved to compassion. To witness families being literally torn apart is devastating. Yet, we seem to be witnesses of these sufferings over and over throughout history.

We ask ourselves what we can do to help. How can we help relieve them of their suffering? Most recently, these are questions Sr. Lori DeGiorgio considered as she watched children and their parents suffer at the US-Mexico border.
And then it happened. Amid all the news stories and information dissemination, it was one image that seemed to strike a chord. For Sr. Lori, the image connected the plight of today’s migrants to the plight of Jesus on the road to Calvary.

Sr. Lori was moved to express her empathy and compassion for the families being torn apart by injustice. She began to connect the images of the migrants’ suffering with the Stations of the Cross, and reflected upon their suffering.

“For me, the photos of migrants’ most poignant moments seemed to mirror those of Jesus on his road to Calvary. The reflections give voice to feelings evoked by them,” Sr. Lori explained.

From the very beginning, Divine Compassion has been about the blending of strength and tenderness, community-building and hospitality, empowerment and solidarity, particularly with those who do not have power. Compassion is interdependent. It is up to us how we reach out, feel empathy and be compassionate to those in need.

Sr. Lori began to share the images and reflections in photo exhibits, prayer services, Rosary special intentions, and as a meditation. Additionally, “We Walk the Road Together” was created as a book of reflections. No matter what the format, people from all walks of life, both young and old, are connected and moved by the work.

Sr. Lori emphasizes, however, that empathy and compassion is not just about religion. In the words of Thomas Merton, “The whole idea of compassion is based on a keen awareness of the interdependence of all these living beings, which are all part of one another, and all involved in one another.”

“There is suffering all over the world. It is a reality we all live with in homes, schools, businesses and communities,” Sr. Lori said. “If we are to make a difference, people must understand the interdependency of how we all affect each other.”

*Tracing Thin Places* is available for purchase through the publisher at Lulu.com and on Amazon.com. If you prefer to order by mail, please send a check for $25.80 payable to: *Sisters of the Divine Compassion, 100 Cedar Street #B-38, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522.*

*We Walk the Road Together* may be purchased in English or Spanish on Amazon.com.
Shepherd’s Flock

Living the Divine Compassion mission, Sr. Alice Conrad spent the majority of her career serving the people of Westchester County in schools, homeless shelters, soup kitchens, government, as well as day care and summer camp programs.

At age 80, when most of her contemporaries might be more than ready for retirement, Sr. Alice decided she would set out on a new venture. It was 2011, and Sr. Alice wondered who helps those who serve the poor and the homeless when they themselves might need help for one reason or another. This became the beginning of Shepherd’s Flock’s mission to provide basic necessities of food, clothing and/or furniture for the poor, especially the working poor, who were not eligible for any government assistance.

With support from the Sisters of the Divine Compassion Congregation, Sr. Alice’s dream became a reality. She put the word out that she was organizing a tag sale to benefit the working poor. The Sisters, as well as students and families from Good Counsel Academy High School (GCA) and Good Counsel Elementary School, Holy Name of Jesus, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Preston High School and Our Lady of Sorrows School rallied around Sr. Alice’s efforts.

Sr. Alice also reached out to her contacts in the business sector, including Laura Ortiz, a mother of a GCA student, who is an Executive Assistant at Bloomingdale’s. With Laura’s encouragement, Bloomingdale’s signed on the first year to support the tag sale, and has been a loyal supporter of Shepherd’s Flock ever since.

“As one of the original and continuing sponsors of Shepherd’s Flock, we, at Bloomingdale’s, are thrilled to support Sr. Alice Conrad in her mission to serve families in need. Over the past eight years, Shepherd’s Flock has brought together Bloomingdale’s employees,
as well as numerous organizations and businesses to collaborate on behalf of the working poor. We are dedicated to this program professionally and personally, engaging our families and friends in our service. Throughout the years, Sr. Alice has continually inspired me with her compassionate heart and joyous spirit. I love her with all my heart!"

“Our business model was based on the Robin Hood Philosophy,” Sr. Alice explains. “Those that have, give to those who do not have. It has worked beautifully since we began.”

And that it did! In the very first year, the tag sale charged $1.00 per clothing item, and raised $10,000. The working poor were able to purchase what they needed at the tag sale, and Shepherd’s Flock was solvent.

Sr. Alice explains that she has always received a tremendous amount of support. “People came the first year and they still come, whether they are helping to organize, donate or sponsor our drives in some way. We are blessed to have had continual support from day one. We always have enough to give to the poor. It has been an incredible experience for us all.”

Since the beginning, Shepherd’s Flock has had tag sales; sponsored birthday parties for poor children; distributed back packs; provided Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas toys and presents; conducted diaper drives; and, distributed food, clothing and furniture to thousands of families and individuals.

The biggest challenge Shepherd’s Flock has had to face over the years was storing donations. During the early years, all of the donations were stored on the Good Counsel campus. When that was no longer available, individuals and organizations, such as Don Bosco in Port Chester, donated space to store everything. Today, donations are kept in four family garages and in the trunk and the back seat of Sister Alice’s “Nun Mobile.” Additionally, Shepherd's Flock has had the good fortune to have the use of friends’ homes to serve the developmentally disabled twice per week. Last year, the group sorted and distributed over 2,000 Christmas presents.

“The support we receive defines the true spirit of interdependence. In supporting the working poor, we have come to depend on one another,” Sr. Alice Conrad said. “We love, trust and take care of each other as we do our best to help the working poor. No one is an island. That’s what it is all about,” Sr. Alice added.

When asked about some of her fondest memories and “success stories,” Sr. Alice explains, “We have been blessed to help the very, very, poor, the working poor; homeless, sick, victims of domestic violence and the hungry.”

“We could not have accomplished this without the help of countless individuals, businesses, community organizations, churches, nonprofit and service organizations, and especially the Sisters of the Divine Compassion who have partnered with us to serve the poor. Special thanks to Sisters Nga Bui, Gertrude Kallenbach, Anne Kniphuisen, Marie Cecile Larizza, the late Jean Marie Noonan, Felicitas Russell, Lenore Smith, and Dorothy Weber who have volunteered their time, talent and love to serve the poor through this ministry,” Sr. Alice said.

“The best compliment we could ever receive is that those we have served have become self-sufficient, and want to ‘pay it forward’ by helping others in need.”
The Sisters of the Divine Compassion joyfully celebrate the special anniversaries of nine of our Sisters, dated from their entrance into the religious life.

As certified teachers, administrators, counselors and advocates, our Sisters have

**Jubilarians**

**AD MULTOS ANNOS!**

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**Lucille Coldrick, RDC,** was a high school history teacher, and Principal of Good Counsel Academy High School and Preston High School. She was the Director of Novices, and served on three of the Congregation’s Leadership Teams. Sr. Lucille was also an administrator at Pace University.

**Susan Greene, RDC,** was a teacher at St. Lawrence O’Toole in Brewster and Sacred Heart in Hartsdale. She was an art teacher at several Divine Compassion elementary and high schools, and an artist-in-residence at Good Counsel Academy.

**Gertrude Kallenbach, RDC,** was a teacher at St. Frances de Chantal in the Bronx and St. Anthony’s Elementary School in Harrison. She was a social service employee for Westchester County, and has volunteered with the Ambulance Corps in Valhalla for more than 40 years.

**Mary Ann Kinsella, RDC,** is currently a member of the Sisters of the Divine Compassion Leadership Team. She taught at St. Anthony’s Elementary School and Good Counsel Academy High School (GCA). She was also Dean of Students at GCA, and served as chair of the Religious Studies Department. Sr. Mary Ann was also the Guidance Director at Preston High School.
shared their unique, personal gifts with children, teens, and adults at all levels of education, administration, and social service platforms.

We celebrate and congratulate our Jubilarians on this momentous occasion, and thank them for their compassionate and faith-filled ministries.

Mary Robert Reilly, RDC,
is an eighth grade teacher
at St. John the Baptist
Elementary School in Yonkers.
Previously, Sr. Mary Robert
taught at St. Gregory the
Great, Good Counsel
Elementary School, Holy
Name of Jesus and Our Lady
of Sorrows in White Plains.
She was also an Assistant
Principal at St. Theresa and
St. Anthony’s in White Plains
and the Principal of Sacred
Heart School in Hartsdale.

Felicitas Russell, RDC,
is a Special Events and
Hospitality Coordinator,
Relocation Facilitator and
Sacristan for the Sisters
of the Divine Compassion.
Sr. Felicitas was the Co-
Director of the RDC
Spirituality Center, and
held various administration
positions at Good Counsel
College, Pace Law School,
and the Loaves and Fishes
Ministry.

Theresa Young, RDC,
was a teacher at
Mt. Carmel Elementary
School in Elmsford,
Director of Religious
Education in Armonk and
Brewster, and a computer
science teacher at John
F. Kennedy Catholic High
School. Sr. Theresa was
also the Clinical
Pastoral Chaplain at
Norwich State Hospital.
She keeps us all connected
by chronicling events as
our photographer-at-large.

Laura Donovan, RDC,
currently serves as President
of the Sisters of the Divine
Compassion Leadership Team.
Sr. Laura was a science teacher,
Chair of the Science Depart-
ment and Principal at Good
Counsel Academy High School,
and was the Dean of Students
at Preston High School for
several years.

Nga Bui, RDC,
is a visiting nurse with the
Dominican Sisters Family
Health Services in Ossining. She
was a charge nurse at Datahr
Rehabilitation Institute and
Greenwich Laurelton Nursing
Home. She also provided private
nursing care to the elderly, and
worked in community hospitals
and clinics in Vietnam. Prior to
her work in health care, Sr.
Nga was the Director of the
LAC DAO Orphanage.
We remember with love each of these women, our sisters and friends, who died within the past year. We celebrate their lives and the example they offered to the Sisters of the Divine Compassion, their families, friends, students and the whole world. They each embraced the call to live compassionate lives. May they rest in the arms of the loving God they so faithfully served.

Sr. Kathleen McCann, RDC  
(Formerly Sr. Mary Adelaide)  
January 17, 1930 - December 8, 2018

Sister Kathleen taught at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School in Elmsford, St. Anthony’s Elementary School in West Harrison, St. Lawrence O’Toole in Brewster, St. Bernard’s in White Plains and St. Frances de Chantal in the Bronx. She was the librarian at Preston High School and St. Joseph’s Seminary.

“Throughout her life, Sr. Kathleen was a model of gentleness and compassion. Along with her love of her Irish heritage and her family, she loved her ministries in education and was ever kind and appreciative of the children and seminarians she served so well.”

Sr. Jean Marie Noonan, RDC  
(Formerly Sr. Mary Michael)  
May 6, 1924 – March 11, 2019

Sr. Jean Marie was a teacher at St. Frances de Chantal Elementary School in the Bronx, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School in Elmsford, St. Anthony’s School in West Harrison, and St. Lawrence O’Toole in Brewster. She also taught at Preston High School, Good Counsel Academy High School and Kennedy Catholic in Somers.

“We all knew Jean as colorful and interested in all. She loved our community and wanted to always be a contributing member, being God’s compassionate presence to all she met.”

Sr. Mary Carmella Stapleton, RDC  
April 4, 1926 - October 13, 2018

Sister Mary Carmella taught at Good Counsel Elementary School and High School, Mt. Carmel School in Elmsford, St. Frances de Chantal, and enjoyed a long career at Preston High School in the Bronx.

“Ardent in mission, Sr. Mary Carmella was a gifted woman who generously shared her expertise and loving heart with her family, community, students and friends.”

Ellen Cundari  
November 4, 1928 – February 15, 2019

Irene Schilio  
July 5, 1930 – April 24, 2019
Welcome Cathy Nolan!

We are happy to announce the appointment of Cathy S. Nolan as Director of Advancement for the Sisters of the Divine Compassion. Cathy succeeds Beth O’Keeffe Cleary. An alumna of Good Counsel Academy High School (GCA) and Director of Advancement and Associate Director of Admissions at GCA, Beth’s knowledge and history with the Sisters of the Divine Compassion (RDC) along with her established relationships with the White Plains community, served the RDC well during her tenure with us. We are very appreciative to Beth for all her accomplishments on behalf of our Congregation, for her continued support and for making a seamless transition for Cathy. We wish Beth happiness and success in her new position at Manhattan College.

As a parent of a GCA graduate and dear friend of the Sisters of the Divine Compassion, Cathy brings a diverse professional background and personal dedication to her new role in Advancement. She has spent her career elevating awareness, understanding and support of worthwhile causes through community outreach and recruitment, marketing campaigns, public relations and development initiatives. Her background encompasses both senior staff positions and consulting assignments at several of the nation’s leading public health organizations, as well as all-girls high schools in Westchester County and the Bronx.

Most recently, Cathy has worked with the School of the Holy Child in Rye, N.Y. and Saint Barnabas High School in the Bronx, where she served as the Director of Development, Communications/Marketing and Enrollment, working to increase awareness, enrollment and fundraising support for the schools. She provided a lead role in the management of the schools’ signature fundraising events, as well as their recruitment/outreach and community relations strategies.

During her tenure as Director of Communications for the American Cancer Society, Westchester Division, Cathy initiated and secured media and corporate sponsorships for the organization’s large-scale fundraising event, and spearheaded the organization’s first training unit. An accomplished, high-energy trainer and facilitator, Cathy offered professional PR, outreach, recruitment, cultivation, sponsorship and event marketing workshops nationwide. Her sessions have helped nonprofits improve staff and volunteer capacity, achieve record-breaking recruitment and fundraising results and capture unprecedented media coverage. Cathy is sharing those skills with the RDC Leadership Team and staff to help us achieve our marketing and development goals.

When asked about the impact the Sisters of the Divine Compassion has had on her life, Cathy reflects fondly on the past 15 years when she first met Sisters Mary Judith Henchey and Anne Kniphuisen in Mahopac. “We have so many wonderful memories with the Sisters. They have been our extended family for over 15 years. My husband and I will be forever grateful to the Congregation for all they have done to support our children and us. It is my honor and privilege to work for the Sisters. It is my hope and prayer that I will add to the great work Beth Cleary and Liz Vazquez have accomplished over the past few years, working to assist the Sisters of the Divine Compassion in advancing the mission and vision for the future of their Congregation.”
SAVE THE DATE

Monday, October 7, 2019
Fenway Golf Club
Scarsdale, NY

HONORING
Marie McMahon