

Good Works

Worldwide Mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

Mission in America

175 Years - (1840-2015)

“Go...teach all nations...” Matthew 28:19



Dear friends of Notre Dame de Namur,

On April 8th, 1838, the 22nd anniversary of the death of our foundress, St. Julie Billiart, Mère Ignace Goethals, the third Mother General of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, pronounced her heroic promise, binding herself by vow, to accomplish, always and in everything, whatever she recognized as perfect. The formula, preserved in the Heritage Centre in Namur, Belgium, is written in her own hand and includes the solemn promise to consecrate herself to making God's Name



“known and loved in America.” ~ from the book about Mère Ignace Goethals

The fruits of Mère Ignace's promise and vision fill the pages of this issue of **Good Works**.

Mère Ignace died two years after sending the first eight Sisters to what was then known as a “foreign mission in America.” Mère Ignace did not live to physically participate in her passion to be in America. However, more Sisters than she could name or number have contributed to the growth and development of her dream and promise.

The scope and success of the mission is definitely rooted in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit's presence and influence was and is manifest in the thousands of adults and children, friends and colleagues who activated the dream and widened the vision that began with Mère Ignace and continued in North America.

Today, we thank you, dear friends, along with our Sisters, Associates, Notre Dame Mission Volunteers and the multitudes worldwide who were and are committed to the charism of Notre Dame de Namur.

This 175th Anniversary is a celebration of our shared mission in communion with the Risen Christ!



In God's Goodness,

Teresita Weind, SNDdeN

Sister Teresita Weind, SNDdeN
Congregational Leader

Front Cover:

At Corryville Catholic (1877), a merger school of six parishes in Cincinnati, OH, Sr. Mary Ellen Carinato, SNDdeN teaches Taylor and Enaisha in an accelerated reading program.



Gratitude to USA Archivists: Srs. Kim Dalgarn, Mary Hayes, Mary Ellen O'Keefe, and Nancy Barthelemy, Kathleen O'Connor.



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GoodWorks

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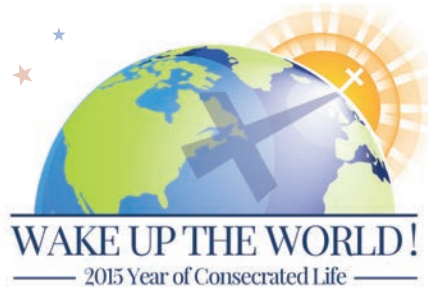
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Mission in America (1840-2015)

By Sisters Kim Dalgarn, Ohio Unit Archivist and Anne Stevenson, SNDdeN



Only 36 years after **St. Julie Billiart** founded the Congregation in Amiens, France in 1804. Mère Ignace Goethals, our third Superior General, sent the first missionaries to Cincinnati, Ohio in 1840. Desiring herself to be a missionary in America, Mother Ignace welcomed the request of Jean-Baptiste Purcell, Bishop of Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, who, visiting Namur, Belgium in 1839, asked for Sisters to teach in his diocese.

The first eight pioneers, Belgian and Dutch-born Sisters ranging from 24 to 51 years of age, set sail on the *Eliza Thornton* from Antwerp, Belgium on September 9, 1840.

Sisters Louis de Gonzague Monseu, Superior, Xavier Houba, Melanie Hamoir, Rosine Matagne, Ignatia Walle, Marie Pauline

Herreboudt, Humbelina Montal and Louise Van der Schrieck arrived at the public landing in Cincinnati on October 31, 1840. They opened the first Notre Dame school at Sixth Street in Cincinnati on January 18, 1841. With this academy, they began a day school and a free school enabling them to reach out to children living in poverty.

From the first school, and those opened subsequently as more colonies of Sisters arrived in America from Belgium, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur became recognized throughout the country as remarkable educators. From east to west, north to south, bishops and pastors sought our Sisters for staffing parish elementary and secondary schools, and catechetical programs.

In this *Year of Consecrated Life*, the Church is celebrating religious congregations throughout the world. The Church recognizes their founders/foundresses.

This year 2015 marks also the 175th Anniversary of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (SNDdeN) in America.



Model of the *Eliza Thornton* given to US Sisters by British Province on the 150th Anniversary.

175 YEARS

“Across borders, cultures and generations, we pray that... we are a visible prophetic witness...” Chapter Calls 2014



34 novices, 2 postulants in Ohio ~ 1890

Soon, young women, attracted by the charism of **St. Julie Billiart** and the educational **Mission of the Sisters**, asked to become **Sisters of Notre Dame**. Sr. Marie Joséphine Link (1814-1852) was the first American Sister, professing First Vows in August 1843 and Perpetual Vows in April 1844.



Cincinnati community of Sisters ~ 1870

Education and Social Ministry

In response to invitations from Catholic clergy, the network of schools in Ohio spread to other states. In places where SNDs opened academies, they educated several hundred children in day schools, and taught in parish free schools, thousands of children living in poor areas. In some large cities, like Cincinnati, OH, Lowell and Lawrence, MA, Sisters went out every morning, on foot or in street cars and returned at 5 or 6 each evening. On Sundays, in Sodalties, the Sisters extended their educational and pastoral ministries to young girls, mostly immigrants, working in factories and mills and unable to attend schools. They opened their convent doors to children, adolescents and adults in providing academic education, religious instruction and a social apostolate. In Cincinnati, the Sisters taught African American children who migrated to the Northern States from slavery in the Southern States. They educated both Negro and Caucasian people, living in city hovels.

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In the West

Fr. Peter DeSmet, SJ visited Cincinnati in 1841 and asked for Sisters for the West. On November 28, 1843, six brave missionaries, ranging from 24 to 44 years of age, left Belgium on the *l' Infatigable (The Tireless)* for an apostolate to Native Americans in the Oregon Territories; they arrived seven months later in August 1844. These Belgian pioneers, Sisters Loyola Duquenne, Marie Cornélie Neujean, Marie Aloysia Chevry, Marie Catherine Cabareaux, Norbertine Verreux, and Marie Albine Gobert faced innumerable hardships, in this bleak region of America. More groups of Sisters from Belgium joined them. Some died as a result of dire living conditions. In 1852, they left Oregon for San Jose, CA at the invitation of the bishop of San Francisco. This was the beginning of numerous foundations in California and Washington State on the West Coast!

By 1890, the Sisters had opened seven academies and 27 parish schools, a school for the deaf and classes for the blind in Ohio and more schools in 15 cities and towns in Massachusetts, five in California, one in Philadelphia (1856) and one in Washington DC (1873). Through these years, more and more young women joined the religious congregation.

Some of the first US Catholic colleges for women were founded by SNDdeN: Notre Dame College in San Jose, CA (1852) which is today Notre Dame de Namur University, Belmont, CA, Trinity College, now Trinity Washington University, Washington, DC (1897), Emmanuel College, Boston, MA (1919). These academic institutions now educate women and men.



Srs. Margaret Hoffman and Roseanne Murphy ~ NDdeN University, Belmont, CA.



Sr. Mary Hayes ~ Trinity Washington University, Washington, DC.



Srs. Teresita Weind, Congregational Leader and Janet Eisner, President of Emmanuel College, Boston, MA.



Brazil 1962



Sr. Jane Dwyer

Kenya 1965



Srs. Catherine Horan and Phyllis Cook

Haiti 2009



Sr. Jeannette Pierre-Louis

South Sudan 2011



Sr. Carolyn Buhs

Many women gave years of service in Notre Dame de Namur. **Since the arrival of the first Sisters in America in 1840, more than 10,000 women became Sisters of Notre Dame.** St. Julie's charism spread throughout the country, and then to other parts of the world when American Sisters were the founding members of Missions on other continents: to Italy in 1923, to Japan in 1924, to Brazil in 1962 and to Kenya in 1965. In later years, more American Sisters went on mission to other countries: Congo-Kinshasa, Nigeria, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Peru, Nicaragua, Belgium, France, Haiti and South Sudan. Sisters responded to the needs of the time, in various ministries wherever the demands are greatest, especially for the most vulnerable people and those in deprived areas.

Ministries and Needs

Today, more than **750 American Sisters minister in 27 States, one Sister in Haiti, West Indies and 25 Sisters ministering on four other continents.** SNDdeN serve in formal education in schools, centers, colleges/universities, religious education programs, parish and youth ministries, pastoral care, counseling, spiritual direction, retreat work, social and health care, Justice & Peace outreach to minorities, refugees, immigrants, as well as those enslaved by human trafficking. Sisters in Health Care Centers continue an active prayer ministry for needs worldwide. The Sisters of Notre Dame need more courageous young women to listen to the call of God and to follow Jesus, in the spirit and footsteps of St. Julie, as did our early pioneers. On this 175th Anniversary in America, the Sisters invite more women to proclaim the Gospel Mission, to serve in the Church in our international Congregation, *"across borders, cultures and generations..."* and to become with our Sisters *"a visible prophetic witness in our fragmented world."*

See our Congregational Website: www.sndden.org
and our Education Website: www.notredameonline.org

Corryville Catholic, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

By Sister Marie Smith, SNDdeN, Principal (1983-2013)

The *Eliza Thornton*, carrying some special passengers, edged its way up the Ohio River on October 31, 1840. **Notre Dame's Mission in America** began that day on the Public Landing in Cincinnati. Inspired by St. Julie Billiart to make known God's goodness everywhere and coming to discover "the West," these 8 Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur were answering the call of the Gospel to "teach all nations." Within a short time, the Sisters opened schools in the basin of the city, in an area now known as "Over the Rhine," in a neighborhood still considered the inner city, and **today a struggling neighborhood amidst an atmosphere of change and gentrification.**



Sr. Jean Anne Blust, SNDdeN answers various needs for children in the primary grades who come to the school office.

By 1877, the reputation of the Notre Dame Sisters as educators had climbed up the Vine Street Hill where a German Parish, St. George's invited our Sisters to teach in their school. In 1914 a new building was constructed. Today, still standing tall on the corner of Calhoun and Scioto Streets, St. George School, now called Corryville Catholic is the result of a merger in 1977 of six elementary schools in Cincinnati.

Diversity

Located in this major Ohio city, Corryville has a diverse student body from different socio-economic communities and cultural backgrounds. A wrap-around school, connecting programs and services with specific children, Corryville uses *Choices for Children*, a project to meet needs of individual students. The school's Mission is to educate the whole child, from pre-school through Grade 8, by meeting the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of each student.



Sr. Mary Ann Zwijack, SNDdeN teaches Grade 8 and spends extra time with students needing help on special projects.

Presence of Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

Early in the history of the school, the girls in the upper grades were taught by our Sisters and the boys were taught by the Marianist Brothers. **Throughout these 138 years, the Sisters of Notre Dame have guided the students** and are still a lifeline for parents desiring a quality education for their children. Sisters Jean Anne Blust and Mary Ann Zwijack have already taught for over 40 years in the school. Now Sr. Jean Ann assists in the office and Sr. Mary Ann teaches students in Grade 8. Sr. Frances Mary Schoenung, having taught for 15 years at Corryville, now tutors students in Math. For over 10 years, Sr. Mary Ellen Carinato has taught at the school; she is librarian and also teaches accelerated reading.

Corryville Catholic is recognized for academic excellence and for being a faith community with strong Catholic values. **Our children stand tall and are ready to learn and become leaders in the 21st century, living out Gospel values** in the "inner city" and beyond.



Sr. Frances Mary Schoenung, SNDdeN tutors a student in Math.



Sr. Mary Ellen Carinato, SNDdeN leads a child into the school.

A New Generation of Women at Notre Dame Academy (1853 to 2015)

By Sister Barbara Barry, SNDdeN, alumna '69, former NDA President (1996-2014)

The year was 1853. In Venice, Italy, Verdi's *La Traviata* premiered, while in the USA, the first horse-drawn fire engine made its debut in Cincinnati, Gail Borden patented his process for condensed milk, the first potato chips were prepared, Steinway pianos were founded in New York, Antoinette Blackwell was the first woman to be ordained a minister. On **Lancaster Street in Boston, Massachusetts, the Boston Academy of Notre Dame opened its doors to educate young women.** Now, 162 years later, the school continues, in the tradition of our early Belgian Sisters to educate girls, from grades 7 through 12, in *faith, character, and scholarship*, by following St. Julie Billiart's inspiration to *"train up strong women."*



Sr. Mary Janice Bartolo, SNDdeN stimulates dialogue, with enthusiastic students, on major theological issues of our day.

The original academy outgrew four campuses in Boston: Lancaster Street, Berkeley Street, the Fenway [now Emmanuel College] and Granby Street. In 1954, the Boston Academy merged with Notre Dame Academy (NDA) in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston and in 1965, the school relocated to Hingham, Massachusetts, 15 miles south of Boston.

While locations changed through the years, the purpose and ideals of the school continue in programs always focused on St. Julie's mandate: *"Teach them what they need to know for life."* Academic excellence and faith formation are primary goals for all students. Graduates are well-prepared for further study at college/university level and are also well-grounded for life in faith and ethics.



NDA alumnae serve with the Sisters: Grace Cunningham '03, Campus Minister • Ashely Simmons '07, Admissions • Ariel Kenyon '10, Latin Teacher • Sr. Mary Janice Bartolo, Theology Chair, Teacher • Kathleen Rowley Colin '89, Principal • Sr. Patricia Toce, Theology Teacher • Courtney Russillo '00, English Chair, Teacher • Carolyn Rein '86, Athletic Trainer • Kathryn Quinn Miller '97, Director of Communications

Women: Business, Science and Environment

Throughout the years, the Sisters with lay faculty and administrators adapted the curriculum to meet the needs of the day. Early in the school's history, when men dominated the business arena, the Academy offered business courses and trained young women to work in office settings. In years when science courses were not considered the norm for girls, the Academy offered biology, chemistry and physics. The science curriculum now includes environmental science courses as well as engineering and robotics. Students work with local environmental agencies to identify and register vernal pools for protection. A vegetable garden, planted on campus last year by faculty and students, yields produce for the school's dining service. In the near future, the students and faculty hope to share vegetables with local food pantries.



St. Julie

A Generation of Women in Social Justice

In the 1960s, with the new directions in the Church after the Second Vatican Council, the Academy updated the religion curriculum to include **social justice courses with a service component** and encouraged students to question and seek the truth. Alumnae from every generation realize that the Sisters taught them for generations to find their voice as women on major social issues. Today, NDA students focus on **global education and the care of the earth.**

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Language study is still a critical element in the curriculum, with programs in French, Spanish, Latin, and also Mandarin Chinese and American Sign Language. Multi-cultural travel experiences to England, France, Spain, Italy, Costa Rica, China and various parts of the United States include a **service and learning component for the students**. The Academy also collaborates in an international student exchange program with Notre Dame High School in Plymouth, England.

Mission and Service

NDA’s greatest resource is its faculty and staff. Well-educated and committed to the Mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, these women and men inspire students to stretch beyond who they are now to reach new horizons. They model life-long learning and community involvement. **Service is a way of life at NDA where faculty and staff work side by side with the girls in all the service projects.** Current and prospective parents visiting the school recognize the comfortable relationship in the classes between teachers and students.



Sr. Patricia Toce, SNDdeN listens to students sharing their service projects in response to Gospel calls.

Many alumnae have been and are today faculty, staff and administrators at Notre Dame Academy, as well as in other ND ministries.

Also, many young women educated at these different campuses of Notre Dame Academy have entered the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, to carry forward the Gospel Mission in academies, parish schools, centers and to stand with the poor in varied ministries in the US and across borders, cultures and generations.

Faithful to making known God’s goodness, the NDA community continues to thrive and **to educate a new generation of young women** to proclaim the Gospel in their daily lives and for years into the future.

View vita! - our NDA magazine at www.ndahingham.com (About/Publications)



Join Us as a Sister, Associate or Mission Volunteer

Students of Notre Dame High School, San Jose, CA participated in the Liturgy for Catholic Schools’ Week. They group around their teacher, Sr. Carol Shoup, SNDdeN for a photo inside St. Joseph Cathedral.



SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR
Making known God’s goodness

for more information go to: www.SNDdeN.org

THE VISION UNFOLDS

By Sister Carol Shoup, SNDdeN

Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, Notre Dame High School, San Jose, CA is part of another story which began over 170 years ago at the port of Antwerp in Belgium. Having waited for weeks for winds to propel *l' Infatigable*, six Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (SNDdeN) set sail for the faraway land of Oregon. In 1844, they opened a small mission in the Willamette Valley for children of the Chinook tribes and early settlers. The Oregon mission, however, met innumerable challenges and closed when the Sisters accepted an invitation to found a mission in California where needs were growing faster in the capital of San Jose.

CHALLENGES in San Jose

In 1851, the Sisters established a college and a day school on Santa Clara Street with 180 Catholic and 75 non-Catholic students of Native American and European families. With donations from clergy and city leaders, the Notre Dame schools grew along this "avenue of willows." In 1927, the day school moved to the O'Connor Mansion and became the current Notre Dame San Jose High School (NDSJ) and the college moved north to Belmont. As the oldest all-girls' high school west of the Mississippi, NDSJ, rich in tradition, flourished through two centuries with the help of many individuals who supported the SNDdeN Mission. Yet the years were not without challenge and risk-taking. With the necessary removal of the O'Connor Mansion in 2002, the future of NDSJ required the same courage and determination found in our early Sisters. The faculty and staff imagined and planned for a multi-cultural learning community in an urban landscape. With vision and funding provided by friends and benefactors, Manley Hall, a new building, became a reality in October 2002 and gave impetus to a renewed vision for young women in this 21st century.



Sr. Rosalie Pizzo, SNDdeN, Vicar for Religious for the Diocese of San Jose, CA celebrates Catholic Schools' Week with the NDSJ students.



Sr. Carol Shoup interacts with students in multiple settings.

COMMITMENT to Social Justice and Diversity

Notre Dame de Namur Hallmarks guide ND learning communities and empower them to integrate social justice, service, diversity, peace-making, inclusive community, and a growing goodness into every aspect of the curriculum and school events. Each academic year in NDSJ, the ND Reads Program selects a book to explore with staff and students a significant social justice issue. The school integrates the books' themes into the curriculum and prayer times and invites authors to address the student body and parents at assemblies. Diversity matters and reflects NDSJ's urban location in Silicon Valley. As the early Sisters embraced students from varied backgrounds and social levels, our students enrich one another with their stories, customs and religious traditions. Campus Ministry provides *DiversiTeas* at which students share their cultural and religious traditions: Christian, Catholic, Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Muslim, and other faiths.

In their first year, students learn about St. Julie Billiart who is a model for their work on the *Woman's Place Project*. Each student researches a well-known woman of history, past or present, to learn of her **impact for good**. She memorializes this goodness in creating a table place setting. In an evening of reflection, poetry, and song, first-year high school students and their teachers celebrate this annual achievement with parents and friends. In their remaining three years, NDSJ women come to realize that they are "*called to be women of justice and peace*." At the conclusion of the last year, at the Young Women's Advocacy Summit, each Senior, now considering her own impact of goodness, presents to parents and the public her *Service Learning Project*, addressing a local or global social need.



Sr. Carol Shoup admires a student's table setting project.

LEARNING in an Urban Landscape

Learning in an urban environment is exciting and enriching. Students and teachers take advantage of the educational and cultural resources in San Jose: arts and theatre district, museums, San Jose State University and St. Joseph Cathedral. These venues become important for

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community partnerships, shared space, field trips and liturgy. Located in the heart of technology and science centers, NDSJ offers students, in this 164th year, innovative educational pathways to the future. The new Technology, Engineering, Design department supports also the development of Science, the Arts and Math education. Courses include a hands-on approach with side-by-side collaboration as students learn to value science and technology in addressing today's social issues.

CROSSING Cultures/Borders

Crossing cultures and borders becomes a part of the learning process. The Immersion Trip Program invites students to urban and rural communities to experience what it means to “stand with people made poor.” A highlight of the service trip to Homeboys Industries in Los Angeles



On an immersion trip to HomeBoys industries, NDSJ students spend time with Sisters Nancy Uhl (left), Mary Ellen Howard (on stairs in rear) and Caroline Sanchez, SNDdeN (right) at St. Columbkille Convent in Los Angeles.

is a follow-up visit to St. Columbkille School in LA and a reflection with the Sisters in the convent on their experience and learnings. Some students benefit from a summer experience with the people in the village of Yancolo, in El Salvador. Relationships with families continue as students share stories and photos of their sister village with classmates. After-school funding activities provide finances for educating each year one child in Yancolo. NDSJ recently welcomed 12 Japanese students from our Sister school, ND Seishin Gakuen High School in Okayama as another cross-cultural sharing experience.

GOODNESS in Action

Enthusiasm of parents, commitment of administrators, faculty, staff, loyalty of alumnae and support of the Board of Directors sustain and energize NDSJ. Currently, through a strategic plan the school is assessing needs and opportunities. With courage and foresight, NDSJ moves forward into the future with a “framework of four pillars:” Career Success, Lifelong Network, Leaders for Tomorrow, Catholics in the 21st century. **The spirit and educational ideals of St. Julie impact the lives of 634 happy and motivated students.** Christine, a Senior, reflects:

“Notre Dame has taught me that it is our duty as human beings to stand up to injustice by using our knowledge and resources to improve the quality of life of those who are struggling.”

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

Invite You to

Support Our Mission

Your donations support and sustain our worldwide Mission on five continents.

The Congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (SNDdeN) is a charitable institution with 501©3 status in the United States. Contributions support our Mission in a variety of ministries across the world.

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In THE GREAT NORTHWEST

By Sr. Elisabeth Tiernan, SNDdeN

Invited by the Jesuit missionary, Fr. DeSmet, SJ, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur arrived from Belgium in the Pacific Northwest in 1844.

"In St. Paul, Oregon, the Sisters established a school for the daughters of the fur traders and Native American or mixed-blood women. The Sisters also prepared local Indian women and fur traders' wives to receive the sacraments. They offered instruction in French and also acquired some knowledge of the Chinook language."

Archives, Archdiocese of Portland, Oregon



In the **Muckleshoot Reservation near Tacoma, Washington**, the People sat in silence, crowded together in six pews and listening to gentle flute music rising in a tiny 100 year old Catholic Church. Sr. Julie Codd, CSJP and I had just finished a religion class for twenty Native American adults and children. The parents had asked us to pass on the faith by teaching the next generation. A small community of people remained in total silence, after celebrating Eucharist. As the notes soared and floated around us, I remembered the words of the flute player, Dan.

"Flute music is the purest sound we have... simply the wood, the air, and you."

It is a spiritual sound because it is the Creator who gives you breath." In this semi-darkness, I remembered with pride the first Sisters and Priests who, in the 19th century, had braved the wilderness to bring the Gospel to the Native Americans in Oregon. It is good for me to have this ministry opportunity to accompany and learn from our Native Peoples.

Then I remembered my first mission to St. Mark Parish in Seattle, Washington, over 35 years ago, where Sisters of Notre Dame taught in five schools. We knew that we were fortunate and we loved the "Great Northwest" which we called it *"the land of the free and the home of the brave."* Our superior, Sr. Regina Marie was always encouraging us to explore this "stunning land of majestic mountains, rain forests, and blue,



Catholic Eighth Graders thank Sr. Elisabeth (center) for directing their retreat.

blue waters." We had fewer Sisters to staff our ministries in the 1970s and our SND presence diminished in Washington State. In 1985, when I returned to teach in a new ministry, our Sisters no longer had any schools or convents in the area. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace in Bellevue, Washington welcomed me to share life and prayer in community with them. Among these special women religious, on "holy ground," I met Sr. Julie Codd who had lived on the **Swinomish Reservation** for ten years and was just beginning a ministry with homeless Native Americans in the city. Sr. Julie introduced me to the native community who inspired me by their spirituality, sense of relationship with all Creation, and their belief in the power of tradition and sacred ceremonies. With Sr. Julie, I do believe that: **"The Church needs the native people."**

As a long-time educator, I now train catechists and conduct retreats and days of reflection for students and adults. I continue to teach in various schools and parishes during Advent and Lent. In 2011, Catholic Native Americans from the **Lummi Reservation** asked the Archbishop for help to educate their children in the faith. When asked to write a book as a teaching tool for them, I realized the importance of using the concepts and symbols of the native community. After much research, rich consultation, input and approval from the People, the Archdiocese of Seattle published **"Keepers of the Fire"** in 2013. Sr. Julie and I, using this text, find that it is a privilege and blessing to educate the children of these strong native peoples in the Northwest and **to bring Catholic teaching to Native Americans who have such a powerful spiritual sense of our God in Creation.** We are learning as we teach!



AL CALL FROM THE NORTHWEST

In the spirit of our first Sisters who braved rough conditions in the Oregon Territories and the early bands of Sisters in Washington State, we hear again SND ancestors suggesting that others explore and make known the goodness of God in this "stunning land of majestic mountains, rain forests, and blue, blue waters." Our Mission is to teach and to bring the good news, **"across borders, cultures and generations,"** to all peoples, in all parts of America and beyond!

GoodWorks

Worldwide Mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

St. Julie's characteristic phrase:

"How good is the good God!"

expressed her special gift of unique trust in God. Today Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur on five continents make known God's goodness.



SNDdeN Mission

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, women with hearts as wide as the world, make known God's goodness and love of the poor through a Gospel way of life, community and prayer.

Continuing a strong educational tradition, we take our stand with poor people, especially women and children, in the most abandoned places.

Each of us commits her one and only life to work with others to create justice and peace for all.



Africa

Democratic Republic of Congo
Congo
Brazzaville
Kenya

Asia

Nigeria
South Africa
South Sudan
Zimbabwe
Japan

Europe

Belgium
France
Italy
United Kingdom

Latin America

Brazil
Nicaragua
Peru

North America

Haiti
United States (27 states and the District of Columbia)

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