



Sisters of  
St. Francis  
of Assisi

# NOJOSHING

SUMMER 2022 VOLUME 36 • NUMBER 3

*Notes*



*Above: The group posed for a photo before beginning their walks around the convent grounds.*

## Walking for Those Who are Hungry

**D**id you know that more than 38 million people, including 12 million children in the United States, are food insecure? In response to this reality, on the afternoon of June 10, 28 Sisters, Associates, and staff of St. Francis Convent walked laps around the convent grounds as part of the annual Capuchin Walk for the Hungry. The event raises money to support Capuchin Community Services in their ministries at St. Ben's Community Meal and House of Peace Emergency Food Pantry located in Milwaukee, Wis.

After trekking up to six laps around the convent, walkers were treated to ice cream provided by an anonymous donor.

It was the 15th year of the congregation's participation in the walk. In addition to those who took part at the convent, other Sisters and Associates hit the pavement in their own neighborhoods or joined over 1,000 other walkers at the live walk that evening at Polish Fest on Milwaukee's lakefront Summerfest grounds.

3221 South Lake Drive  
Saint Francis, WI 53235-3799  
lakeosfs.org



*NOJOSHING is an Indian word. It means "Straight Tongue." In 1849, the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi built their Motherhouse on land that was called Nojoshing by the Indians, because it protrudes out into Lake Michigan like a straight tongue.*

# NBA Visitors at St. Francis Convent

Pat Connaughton, shooting guard for the 2021 World Champion Milwaukee Bucks, entered St. Francis Convent on March 21 to cheers and the smiling faces of employees who greeted him from the second-floor lobby balcony. Toting a large cardboard box filled with caps and t-shirts for the Sisters, he gave a fist pump and was delighted by the warm reception. As he walked down the hallway to the Elizabeth Hall dining room to meet with the Sisters, he said, "I'm happy to be here!"

That was the vibe that was felt by all as Connaughton was joined by Bucks President Peter Feigin and Gale and Judi Klappa, Bucks minority owners and generous donors to the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi. The group was at the convent at the invitation of Sister Ellen Carr, associate director of the congregation, who has known the Klappas for several years.

The hour-long visit took on a party atmosphere as Sisters engaged with their guests, pos-

ing questions to the group that elicited very thoughtful, sometimes humorous, responses. The Sisters learned that there is a strong commitment by the Bucks organization -- from the top leaders and owners down through the ranks of players and staff -- to build an ethical, community-minded culture with Milwaukee's best interests in mind.



The visit was especially meaningful for Sister Lourdetta Van Driel, who served as the assistant principal of Assumption High School in Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. Klappa attended Assumption and has kept in touch with her over the years. Sister Lourdetta sat with Gale and Judi during the afternoon gathering.

Feigin found a fast friend in Sister Mary Lou Herrmann, as both are New Yorkers who share that common bond. Connaughton connected with those of Irish descent who were delighted at the fact that he holds dual citizenship and has been invited a couple of times to be a member of the Irish national team. And Gale Klappa found



*Sister Eleonor Riordon posed with Pat Connaughton*

Sister Lenore Steilen to thank her for her delicious pecan fingers, a treat he has enjoyed at Christmas.

The guests were also introduced to Sister Catherine Morrissey, a former basketball coach who, during her time in Baltimore, had a winning record at St. Elizabeth School. All in all, the visit was an event that the Sisters will remember for a long time. The Sisters made sure to tell their guests that they would continue to pray for the Bucks' success!



*Sister Catherine Morrissey joined the Sisters as they extended a blessing on their guests.*



*Peter Feigin, Gale Klappa, and Pat Connaughton, are all smiles as they pose with Sister Ellen Carr.*

## Anyone for a Piece of Pie?

When it comes to homemade pies, no one can resist the temptation to indulge! In celebration of Catholic Sisters Week, Sisters and staff got together to share life stories and enjoy delicious pie. Staff members from Elizabeth Hall, Clare Circle, and St. Francis Convent joined Sisters from both residences on March 14 for conversation and a chance to get to know Sisters better. There were a dozen or so scrumptious pies to choose from, all baked by Sisters. The Sister bakers included: Sisters Helene Mertes (coconut cream and apple); Grace Schauf (banana cream and apple); Laverne Sommer (strawberry rhubarb and apple); Kathryn Dean Strandell (lemon meringue, cherry, and blueberry); Joanne Schatzlein (pecan); and Kathy Cairns (Snickers pie, German chocolate, and French Silk).

What a wonderful opportunity to build community among the Sisters and staff!



*(from left) Sister Jean Mariani, Chrissy Blazek of Direct Mail, Sister Angelyn Dries and Kamia Beasley, director of nursing, shared time together.*



*(l to r) Sisters Laverne Sommer and KD Strandell serve a slice of pie to Liesa Guinta of Housekeeping Services.*

---

## Prayer Service Honors Uvalde School Victims

A painful reality here in the United States is that as of July 11, 2022, there have been 314 mass shootings and 17, 300 people have lost their lives to gun violence since the beginning of the year. In response to the mass shooting in Uvalde, Texas, Sisters Mary Hau, Eleonor Riordon, Jean Mariani, and Barbara Barry organized a special prayer service on Memorial Day, May 30, to remember the 21 victims of the May 24 school shooting.

Sisters from Elizabeth Hall filled San Damiano Center to pray for the victims and those injured, and for their families and the medical workers who cared for them. They shared their thoughts about the horrific misuse of guns in the United States.

The names of the victims were read during the service and after each name was called, a bell was rung and a candle was lit. During a time of sharing, Sisters spoke about how violence has touched their lives and the lives of those they have served. They called for protections to curb

the availability of firearms in a society where respect for human life has been diminished. Sister Mary Jeanne Quinlivan recalled how many clients of the Sisters' Baltimore ministries were killed due to gun violence.

In the closing prayer, Sisters called for lawmakers to create the means to protect all in society, especially the most vulnerable.



## Cookout at Eagle Lake



There is nothing like a cookout to make one feel like summer is here! Sisters Mary Lou Schramer, Rita Ann Haderer, Jodene Wydeven, Lenore Steilen, Mary Hau, Richelle Ranallo, Rosalynn Dzikonski, Audrey Mozejewski, and Mary Jerome Lacy from Elizabeth Hall enjoyed a summer treat on June 21 with their first visit of the year to



the congregation's house on Eagle Lake in Dover, Wis. They were joined by John George, interim administrator of St. Francis Convent, Kimmer Brewer, activity director for Elizabeth Hall, and Larry Willkomm of transportation

and worship environment.

Larry fired up the grill for a cookout on the warm summer day. It was John's first trip to the lake, and the Sisters enjoyed showing him around. A nice time was had by all.

## Invitation to Pray the Peace Prayer Now on Website

Visitors to the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi website ([www.lakeosfs.org](http://www.lakeosfs.org)) can now link to a video of Sisters praying the Peace Prayer for peace in these troubled times of global instability, gun violence, war, and injustice.



*Sister Mary Louise Herrmann*

The "Peace Prayer Project," as it is called, currently features Sisters from Elizabeth Hall reading the prayer one after another, in a group of two or three. The groups will change, so visitors can check back every week to recite the prayer with a new group. Visitors are invited to take a moment in reflection to pray along with the Sisters. The project sprung from an idea presented by Sister Jeanne Carrigan, who wished to create a peaceful prayer presence at a time of great turmoil and unrest in the world.

### Update on Where to Send Cancelled Stamps

We are able to share with you a place you can now send your cancelled stamps. The Sisters of the Holy Cross have a stamp ministry in Notre Dame, Ind. You can get more information on their website: <https://www.cscsisters.org/support-us>

Their contact information is:

Stamp Ministry  
100 Augusta Hall-Saint Mary's  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Questions? Call 574-284-5675 or email [stamproom@cscsisters.org](mailto:stamproom@cscsisters.org).

**Please remember the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi in your will.**

A bequest is a wonderful way to support our retired Sisters and is a testimony of your care and concern for them.

## Poverello Creations

**Creativity in Ministry**  
Greeting Cards, Crafts, Art & more!  
Supporting the Mission of the Sisters of St Francis of Assisi



3221 S. Lake Dr., St. Francis, WI 53235 • 414-294-7310  
[poverellocreations.org](http://poverellocreations.org)

**Nojoshing Notes is published by the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi.**

Send comments /suggestions to: *Nojoshing Notes*  
Editor

Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi  
3221 S. Lake Dr., Saint Francis, WI 53235-7193  
or e-mail: [jparrott@lakeosfs.org](mailto:jparrott@lakeosfs.org)