Nano’s Three Hundred Years Of Grace

By Sr. Hannah Marie Cox, PBVM

To really know Nano Nagle and her call to serve, we must travel back three centuries to her birth – her roots. Although born into a wealthy Irish family, she lived in a country of poverty and persecution. Since she was the oldest of the seven Nagle children, she learned responsibility at an early age.

Although the practice of the Catholic Religion was forbidden by English Penal Law, the Nagle family remained faithful and practiced in secret. Nano’s parents planted the seed of faith in their children and nourished it through the Eucharist, devotion to the Sacred Heart and to Our Blessed Mother. You might say her family helped prepare her for religious life as prayer and good works were emphasized.

Not able to receive an education in Ireland, the Nagle children were sent to France. There they practiced their religion publicly and received a Catholic education. Nano learned to love the social life of France and remained there beyond her schooling. However, her heart was with the poor of Ireland. She soon chose the suffering of others to the comfort of self, and returned to Ireland to begin her call to serve God and God’s poor.

Home in Cork, Ireland, she was overcome with the desire to educate children in their faith and provide academic formation. With some of her inheritance she would build schools but clergy, family and friends discouraged her because of the danger. This provoked a challenging time in Nano’s life and she did what many saw as her mistakes. However, through courage, perseverance, and most of all faith in God and love...
Dear Friends,

It doesn’t seem possible that we’re already so far into 2018. I hope the New Year has been good to you and filled with many blessings.

This year Presentation people around the world are celebrating the 300th anniversary of Nano Nagle’s birth. It is always said of Nano that she was very well known in the streets of Cork – in the muddy back alleys and the fancy shops where she received donations. She was known because she was always there – always present. Where there was a need, she was there. Besides establishing her schools, she visited the poor, the sick, the elderly and the needy of Cork at night. So much so that she was known as the “Lady with the Lantern.” That is why the lantern is such a meaningful symbol for us.

I’d like us to think about the presence of Nano. Sometimes there is no greater gift than to be present with someone. When we don’t know what to say at a time of sickness, death, or other tragedy, our caring presence is our words. Quiet listening with an understanding heart is all we need to say. During my visits to nursing homes, I often observe people just sitting holding the hand of their loved one. That’s true presence.

When we are talking with someone, do we give them our complete undivided attention? Do we listen patiently to people who often repeat themselves or who struggle to express themselves?

Do we spend some quiet time in the presence of our God? This is a hard one for all of us. As I sit down to pray, I immediately think of five things that have to be done immediately. We all struggle with distractions.

It is your help and support that enabled us to maintain our Nano-like presence in the world. I think, in particular, of one of our sisters, Mary Sullivan who died a few weeks ago. Although technically retired, she spent the last 17 years being a presence in Watts, California. Your contributions, support and prayer enabled Mary to minister without pay for all those years. Mary did not speak much Spanish and the people did not speak much English, but they formed an incredible bond because Mary was present all the time to the people.

Thank you for your continued generous support of our mission.

Gratefully in Christ,

Sr. Barbara King, PBVM
Councilor
In the Spotlight

The Living Charism of Nano Nagle for Today

I see the charism of Nano Nagle brought to life daily at Presentation Learning Center by the students, the volunteers, and the directors.

About 150 men and women, ranging in ages from early twenties to mid-eighties come to the Center for classes, free of charge, in English, math, GED preparation, computer skills, citizenship preparation, and crafts. The students find a welcoming and safe environment, enthusiastic and caring teachers, and motherly baby-sitters for their pre-school children. Some of these immigrants, natives of Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras had limited or no opportunity for education in their native countries, while others come with academic degrees. However, all are one as they struggle to master the English language. I see the spirit of Nano most alive in the senior group “The Young at Heart.” They have classes in English, but in addition, they knit, crochet, sing, play games, share food, pray, and support one another. Nano would be proud.

A special group of women and men at Presentation Learning Center, the volunteers, are an integral part of the program’s success. Some were taught by Presentation Sisters and know the story of Nano’s love of people made poor. They continue her work by sharing their time and talents with the students. Among the volunteers are retired Sisters from other Congregations. They relate to the charism of Nano because some of them ministered for years in Latin America. When volunteers are thanked for their service, they say that they receive much more than they give. Their fear of the area diminishes as they get to know the students and experience their joy and gratitude for any help they get. In 2003, when I retired from high school ministry, for health reasons, I came to volunteer at Presentation Learning Center because it gave me an opportunity to give to those in need. Fourteen years later, even though I have not learned Spanish, I continue to experience the warm hospitality, simplicity of living, and grateful love of the people.

In 2000, Sisters Jane Bonar and Catherine Burke were inspired by the spirit of our foundress, Nano Nagle, to begin a ministry with people made poor. They chose San Miguel, one of the poorest parishes in Los Angeles, which was populated by immigrant families. The people expressed that their greatest need was to learn to read and write English. The mustard seed of one classroom has grown into a flourishing tree with about 150 men and women coming to classes each day. In this caring environment the students can grow in self-esteem while they learn to use their gifts and talents to better their lives and those of their children. For a few hours each day they can set aside the fear of being deported, or the worry of how to pay the rent. Thanks to the compassionate and capable leadership of Sisters Jane and Catherine, Nano’s dream of being of service in any part of the world is alive and well in Watts, Los Angeles, in 2018, and I feel privileged to be there.

In addition to teaching at the Center, I pay a weekly visit to a nearby rest home for dementia patients. These poor men and women are always grateful for a listening ear, a shared prayer, or just a smile. In my spare time, I knit comfort scarves for a battered women’s shelter. As a daughter of Nano, I thank God and my congregation for giving me the opportunity to carry on her work.

Our dear Sr. Mary Sullivan, the author of this article was called home to God on December 29th, 2017. We are sharing her article in loving memory of the dedicated life she lived as a Presentation Sister for sixty-four years. We know that she is now resting in the loving arms of our God.
Celebrating Our 2018 Jubilee Joy

Our Jubilarians show what it means to live in the charism of Nano Nagle. So many special memories in ministry & community!

70 Years Sr. Clare Roche (formerly Sr. Mary Kieran)

How like Nano Nagle’s work! Sister Clare Roche ministered in two of our poorest missions: Houma, Louisiana and Henry Street in Manhattan. When Clare went to Houma, the South was still segregated. Sister Clare taught at St. Lucy’s, a segregated school for black students, where our sisters maintained high standards of academic learning and some of whose graduates went on to get doctoral degrees. Later, Sister Clare became one of our first sisters to minister outside a school setting at St. Theresa’s Parish on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. This was and remains a major area for immigrants in New York City. One interesting connection is that the sisters who lived in the Saint Theresa convent before Presentation Sisters arrived were Ursuline nuns, reminiscent of Nanos early connection with the Ursuline’s. Parish work at St. Theresa’s included a broad spectrum of involvements including assisting at Masses in English, Spanish and Chinese; providing food for indigent families; organizing for affordable housing; visiting the sick and preparing children and adults for Baptism and First Communion. Can you hear Nano clapping?

70 Years Sr. Mary Lusk (formerly Sr. Mary Jogues)

From early childhood Sister Mary Lusk found the stories of Jesus compelling, and it was most often religious women who led her to the heart of them. Sister Mary was drawn to the story of Nano Nagle who risked her life and fortune to reveal the same nourishing narratives to deprived children. Today, Sister Mary continues to relish memories of her students. She recalls the thrill of their creativity: a Russian girl giving a lesson about Russia; a Lithuanian boy recounting life in his parents’ homeland; students reenacting life in a foreign country, dressed in the attire of a particular region and period. Sister Mary also shares how grateful she is for her time in the Presentation Community, stating, “moments of profound understanding from or for another sister, the quiet support and respect evoking warmth and gratitude.”

Look for our Jubilarians celebrating 60 years in our next Newsletter.

“The best works meet with the greatest crosses.”

-Nano Nagle

Nano Nagle’s birthplace in County Cork, Ireland. This is now home of the Nano Nagle Centre.
Share the **Journey**

**By Sr. Virginia Wilkinson, PBVM**

What does it mean to share a journey? To walk alongside someone? To “companion”?

In September 2017 Pope Francis invited Catholics around the globe to “share the journey” with their immigrant brothers and sisters, to be keenly aware of their neighbors who include many of the world’s most vulnerable people: migrants and refugees fleeing war, poverty and persecution, people who seek nothing more than basic needs and a path forward.

Caritas International, Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities USA, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops all support this campaign and have provided “tool kits” with suggestions for use by parishes, schools, and individuals.

The Sisters of the Presentation are committed to outreach to the immigrant community and advocacy on their behalf. This means becoming informed on current issues like the termination of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitians and others and the passage of the Dream Act of 2017, which will give a pathway forward for persons who came to this country as children by parents who entered illegally or overstayed their visas. It also means being aware of those brought to our country against their will, victims of human trafficking, the modern day slavery that is found both in large cities and rural communities.

Through weekly Justice Updates our Sisters and Associates receive information on these and other pressing social justice issues and are given telephone numbers and suggested scripts to use when phoning their senators and representatives. As a congregation we believe that our calls make a difference and that the issues are moral issues, not simply political. We also seek to “widen the tent” by collaborating with other people of good will to achieve the maximum good.

Ours is a polarized society and in our processing of all the news with which we are bombarded and interacting with others around these issues, we earnestly try not to stereotype, to acknowledge the human dignity of all, especially persons who hold very different positions from our own, to remember that mindsets are not changed by arguments and debate, but by stories and human encounter. We believe there is real power in PRAYER.

The “Share the Journey” campaign is a two year program helping us as Catholics to focus on the “stranger in our midst,” helping us to recognize in every refugee family another family who fled into Egypt to protect the life of their Child. I urge you to get more information at www.sharejourney.org. 🆙

“The Almighty makes use of the weakest means to bring about His works.”
My Journey as a Presentation Associate

By Mrs. Geri Novia

Pope Francis recently stated: “Life is a journey, a long journey, but a journey we cannot make ourselves. We need to walk together with our brothers and sisters in the presence of God.”

My journey began nearly 60 years ago. Along with my parents of course, the Sisters of the Presentation hugely impacted my formative years. In 1964, I entered St. John’s Elementary School. Sister Mary Adele was my first grade teacher and in grade 2, I had Sister Mary Dominic – Sister Julie Ciccolini as well as many others. Throughout my eight years at St. John’s, yes, I learned my 3 R’s. But more importantly, these women instilled in me the importance of Christian values. They fostered the growth of kindness and compassion towards others, support and encouragement. My life was enriched by their spirituality, which led me to realize the importance of service to others.

In high school I became a CCD teacher to elementary students and worked with our local CYO organization and any volunteer opportunity that arose. Eventually I became an educator myself, working with special needs students for 28 years as a speech pathologist.

During this time I had a great opportunity to influence the lives of high school students. I remembered how the Sisters helped to shape who I became. I wanted to do the same. “Wins and losses were not the most important thing to me as a coach.” Life lessons were. To this day, I still hear from many of my former student-athletes.

When my husband and I settled in Princeton in 1983, I became involved with my new parish, Prince of Peace. I was back teaching religious education to the young people of Princeton, including my own daughter. I now continue my ministry at Prince of Peace working with the Veteran’s Outreach Program and with the food pantry.

Throughout all this time, I remained in touch with Mary Jane Person and Sister Mary Anne. Jane had become an Associate, and I spoke to her about it. The realization that I wanted to do more through prayer and service brought me to become an Associate. I look forward to our monthly prayer meetings, outreach service projects, and our gatherings at St. Mary’s Healthcare Center. I have come to realize the need for deep personal prayer in order to nurture my relationship with God and others.

I look forward to continuing my journey as a Presentation Associate. I am extremely grateful for the Presentation Sisters and Associates who influenced my life and continue to do so. And as Nano Nagle herself said, “With the help of God, we can do a great deal.”

“By degrees, with the assistance of God, we may do a great deal.” –Nano Nagle
We Remember

Please join the Sisters in prayer for the following loyal friends who have recently passed away.

Mrs. Dorothea Beauvais  Ms. Annette LeBlanc  Mrs. Colleen Reilly
Mr. Martin Birley  Mrs. Loretta Lisciotti  Mr. John Reynolds
Mrs. Jean Carnes  Mr. Frank Maiorana  Mrs. Ann Reynolds
Mrs. Florence Cook, Sr.  Mrs. Rita Masicarelli  Mrs. Quenia Rodriguez
Msr. James Cox  Mr. Eugene McEnerney  Mrs. Mary Agnes Norton Rowena
Mr. Edward Dobransky  Rev. Felix McGrath, OFM  Mr. Paul Ryan
Mrs. Patricia Geisel  Mr. George Murphy  Mr. Edward Ryan
Mrs. Ann Gilmartin  Mrs. Maureen Naccarato  Mrs. Joyce Stream
Mr. Mark Goguen  Mrs. Kathryn O’Hanlon  Rev. Brian Tomlinson, Cap
Ms. Celes Jeff  Mr. Nunzio Pelella  Mrs. Anna Walsh
Mrs. Rita Jeff  Mrs. Beverly Raher  Ms. Peggy Volponi
Mrs. Aleykkutty Joseph  Mr. Robert Ramos  Mrs. Patricia Woodrum
Mrs. Margaret Kelley  Brother Luke Reddington, FMS

We are blessed that the memory of loved ones, who kindled our spirits in some way by their love, their deeds or their commitment, remain with us after they are gone.

Catholic Volunteer Network Events

On Saturday September 16th, many Sisters and young adults joined Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh with the landscaping and cleaning of three houses. These preparations were for the final inspection allowing for the Certificate of Occupancy to be issued. The three families who invested their own sweat equity alongside hundreds of volunteers during the building process, can now enjoy their new homes.

On Monday October 9th, a total of 33 volunteers comprised of High School Students, Young Adults, Sisters & Associates spent the day adding murals and a family tree to the walls of Sacred Heart Pre-school in Fitchburg, MA to brighten their little school room. Sisters and Associates also sewed over a dozen character pillows to provide a comfy space in the reading nook.
of the poor, her “mistakes” became stepping stones to sainthood.

Joining the Ursuline community in France seemed to be her first mistake but it strengthened her desire for religious life. Living a more affluent life in France made her more conscious of Ireland’s poor.

Bringing the Ursuline Sisters to teach in Cork was thought another mistake as their rule did not permit them to teach outside of a school structure. Though disappointed, Nano, saw this as her call to go out to teach in the ghettos and visit the sick.

What is striking is that Nano spent many years walking in the footsteps of Christ before starting her religious community. She wore herself out trying to teach children who resented her efforts as they were used to an undisciplined life. She became the “lady with the lantern” visiting the sick at night. When her Jesuit confessor saw how dedicated she was to the poor, he encouraged her to start a religious community to continue her work. In 1767, she began her novitiate with the Ursuline nuns that laid the solid foundation of our Presentation Order. In later years her spirit and rule would influence Brother Edmund Rice to establish the Irish Christian Brothers to educate the poor. Then too, Mother Catherine McAuley, in establishing the Sisters of Mercy, made her novitiate with the Presentation Sisters.

President Kennedy in his speech to the Irish Parliament in 1965 publicly declared: “No larger nation did more to keep Christianity alive in the darkest centuries and no larger nation has ever provided the world with more literary and artistic genius than Ireland.”

If the president had known Nano Nagle, he would have said it of her.

Yes, three hundred years ago Nano was the tiny acorn that grew through prayer and service to become a strong oak tree that would spread its branches across every continent. She is well personified in the poem, “The Oak Tree” (by Johnny Ray Ryder Jr.). Though the wind did everything to bring the oak tree down, it still stood as quoted in the second section of the poem:

“The weary wind gave up and spoke, ‘How can you still be standing, Oak?’ The oak tree said: ‘I know that you can break each branch of mine in two, carry every leaf away, shake my limbs, and make me sway, but I have roots stretched in the earth growing stronger since my birth. You’ll never touch them, for you see, they are the deepest part of me. Until today, I wasn’t sure of just how much I could endure. But now I’ve found, with thanks to you, I’M STRONGER THAN I EVER KNEW.’”

Nano started our Presentation community with only four members. Because of the Penal Laws, vocations were few but she never gave up, facing the future with trust. Her advancing age and that of other members did not prevent her from planning her community’s future. Indeed Nano planted the seed, nourished it through prayer and sacrifice but, sadly enough, never lived to see it bloom. In celebrating her birth, we must realize that we hold the treasure in full bloom and we are now the caretakers.

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**Sisters of the Presentation Prayer Association**

Our Sisters are mindful in their daily prayers of the intentions and prayer requests of our friends and benefactors. Masses are offered on the first Wednesday and the third Thursday of each month for all who have asked for prayerful support in the various aspects of their lives. Giving one of our attractively designed cards lets people know that you are remembering them in a unique way during a special time in their lives. The usual donation is $5.00 to be sent after you have used the card.

If you would like any of our beautiful prayer cards for Birthdays, Healing, Special Occasion, Thinking of You or Sympathy you may send your email requests to PBVMPrayers@sistersofthepresentation.org or you may write to Mission Advancement Office, Mt. St. Joseph, 84 Presentation Way, New Windsor, NY 12553.
In Memoriam

Sister Eileen Dennehy (Sister Mary Christine)
June 28, 1929 - October 7, 2017

Sister Eileen Dennehy “Sr. Mary Christine,” of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, passed away on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital, Newburgh, NY. She was 88 years old.

Sister Eileen was born on June 28, 1929 in Queens, NY. Sr. Eileen entered Religious Life at Mount St. Joseph, New Windsor, NY on September 8, 1947. She professed her first vows on April 13, 1950 and her final vows on April 13, 1953. She graduated from St. Michael's High School, New York City and earned her BA degree from Manhattan College in 1956.

During her ministry, Sister Eileen taught for 30 years at: St. Paul's School in Yonkers, NY; St. Frances of Rome and Our Lady of Solace Schools in the Bronx; St. John’s School in Goshen, NY; St. Jude’s School in Manhattan; St. Rose of Lima School in Rockaway Beach, NY; St. Mary’s School in Kingston, NY. Sister also served as principal of St. Mary’s School in Kingston from 1965 to 1969. Following her ministry in education, Sister Eileen served in Pastoral Care Ministry at Calvary Hospital in the Bronx for 24 years from 1981 to 2005.

In addition to her family of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sister Eileen is survived by her brother, James Dennehy; her sisters-in-law, Dorothy Dennehy and Margaret Dennehy; and her nephew, Timothy Dennehy.

Sister Eileen was predeceased by her parents, Martin and Marion (Holmes) Dennehy and her brothers, Rev. Martin Dennehy, Deacon John Dennehy and Thomas Dennehy.

Sister Mary Sullivan (Sister Mary Pius)
January 9, 1932 - December 29, 2017

Sister Mary Sullivan, 85, a Sister of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, formerly known as Sister Mary Pius, passed away on Friday, December 29, 2017, at Long Beach Memorial Hospital in Long Beach, CA.

Sister Mary was born on January 9, 1932, in County Cork Ireland, the daughter of the late Matthew and Bridget O’Sullivan, and entered the Sisters of the Presentation on Sept. 24, 1954, professing her final vows August 20, 1962. She earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Regina Coeli College in Fitchburg, MA and Master’s Degree in Education from Fitchburg State College in Fitchburg, MA.

Sister taught for 26 years at St. Bernard Elementary School, St. Bernard High School, Sacred Heart School and Holy Family School, all in Fitchburg and St. Mary School in Ayer. She also taught at St. Gregory School in San Antonio, Texas for two years. While at St. Bernard’s High School, she served as Director of Guidance for 20 years. From 2003 until her death, she taught at Presentation Learning Center in Watts, CA.

Sister held the position of vice-president of the Presentation Community from 1989-1995. Besides her Presentation Community, Sister Mary is survived by her sister, Eleanor Braban in Dumont, NJ, her sister Margaret Barton in Dublin, Ireland as well as several nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her parents and a brother Cornelius O’Sullivan.

In Memoriam continued on page 10
Sister Clare Dowling (Sister Mary Clare)
August 12, 1921 – February 8, 2018

Sister Clare Dowling, of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, entered into eternal life on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at Valley View Center in Goshen, NY. She was 96 years old.

The daughter of the late John and Mary (Hayden) Dowling, Sr. Clare was born on August 12, 1921 in New York City. Sister Clare entered Religious Life at Mount St. Joseph, New Windsor, NY on September 8, 1943. She made her first vows on April 25, 1946 and her final vows on August 25, 1949. Sister earned both a BA in English from Manhattan College and an MS Ed. from Fordham University.

During her ministry, Sister Clare taught at St. Frances of Rome and Our Lady of Solace Schools, Bronx; St. Michael’s Elementary School, Manhattan; St. Rose of Lima School, Rockaway Beach; St. Andrew School, Clifton NJ and St. Lucy School, Houma, LA. On returning from Louisiana, Sister Clare taught special needs students at Our Lady of Snows School in Floral Park, Long Island from 1968-1986. In later years she served as a Counselor at Catherine Sheridan Home and in the finance offices at St. Michael Academy and Mount St. Joseph.

In addition to her family of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sister Clare is survived by her many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Sister Clare was predeceased by her parents, John and Mary (Hayden) Dowling and her brothers, John, Joseph, Thomas and Robert.

Sister Lillian Beattie (Sister Mary Doris)
December 5, 1927 - March 15, 2018

Sister Lillian Beattie, 90, passed away March 15, 2018, at Presentation Convent. Sister Lillian was born December 5, 1927, in Woonsocket, RI, the daughter of Sophie (Zielinski) and John Beattie. She received her early education in Woonsocket and entered the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary on February 2, 1949, professing her vows on August 20, 1954. Continuing her education, she received a Bachelor of Education from Regina Coeli College in Fitchburg, MA, a Master's Degree in History from St. Michael's College in Winooski, VT.

Sister Lillian’s teaching career included St. Bernard's Elementary School, and Holy Family School in Fitchburg, St. Leo School in Leominster, and St. Patrick School in Whittinsville. She also taught in the Dioceses of Bridgeport, CT, and Providence, RI. After retiring from teaching ministry, she worked in the field of gerontology for nine years as Activity Assistant at Mt. St. Rita Health Care Center in Cumberland, RI. She then moved to Presentation Convent in Leominster where she served as receptionist and sacristan. Besides her Presentation Community, Sister Lillian is survived by her sister, Dorothy Roberts and brother John, of Woonsocket, RI. Several nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, and a great-grandnephew. She is predeceased by her parents, her brother Edward, her sisters Esther Savard, Amelia Thifault, a niece Carol Malo, and a nephew James Beattie.
The Lady of the **Lamp**

*By Bernard Redmond*

**Louis I. Newman wrote:**

*I sought to hear the voice of God,
And Climbed the topmost steeple.
But God declared: “Go down again,
I dwell among the people.”*

That must have been Nano Nagle’s belief when ‘The Lady of the Lamp’ walked among the people of Cork. Nano, born into a wealthy family and schooled in France, was touched by the poor huddled in the church doorstep on her way home from a ball.

Now her sisters are following in her footsteps working among the poor and needy.

It was in 1943 that we first met the Sisters of Presentation when they arrived in Kingston, NY to staff St. Mary’s School. As educators, they displayed the same interest and perseverance Nano had in the children of Cork.

Since that time we have been continually involved with the Sisters in one way or another - from being trained by them in grammar school to having a daughter in the Congregation.

We are well aware of their many missions - each one of them working with the poor in some way. Since 1943 they have moved from education to other areas of service including healthcare, social services and parish ministry.

We have witnessed those who follow ‘The Lady of the Lamp’ go wherever the need may be - from missions in South America or new adventures here in The Nora Cronin Presentation Academy in Newburgh.

We love you all and, in Nano’s last words to you: “Love one another as you have hitherto done. Spend yourselves for the poor.”

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**Bernard Redmond has been a long time faithful friend and strong supporter of the Presentation Sisters. He not only came to know Nano Nagle through association with the Sisters but more intimately when his oldest daughter, Mary, entered the Presentation Congregation.**

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**From the desk of Sr. Mary Byrnes, Director of Mission Advancement**

Dear Friends,

May the peace and joy of our Risen Lord be with you.

It is with a heart full of gratitude that I greet you today. I never cease to be humbled by your continued generosity and kindness.

As you will read in our newsletter, we are celebrating three hundred years since the birth of our foundress, Venerable Nano Nagle. She has been the inspiration and model of thousands who have come to know, love and imitate her, not only in our Presentation Convents, but worldwide by people from all walks of life. Your kind words, prayers and donations assist us in her call to us.

We are grateful for your friendship and partnership with us during this time of celebration and for supporting us in putting into action the words of Jesus: “For I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you took me in.”

Be assured of the prayers of our Sisters and Associates.

Gratefully in Christ,

Sr. Mary Byrnes, PBVM
Mission Statement

We, the Sisters of Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, inspired by our foundress, Nano Nagle, commit ourselves to the Gospel values of hope, justice, freedom, and human dignity. In union with one another, we pledge ourselves to act for and with the poor and oppressed of our world, and to care for the earth.

Ways of Giving

Your donation has an immediate impact. It will not only help support our Sisters who work without compensation, but it will help support: retired and infirm Sisters, the ongoing education of members, maintenance of facilities in New Windsor, New York and Leominster, Massachusetts.

With your support, we can continue to reach out to those in need, following in the words of our foundress, Nano Nagle, “If I could be of service in saving souls in any part of the world I would gladly do all in my power. Where there is a need I will go.”

Online Donations Please make note that donations can now be made securely and safely online at: www.sistersofthepresentation.org.