

April 2016 .....

Dear companions in ministry,

It is my pleasure and honor to thank you for your generous and loving support of the Sisters of Providence in 2015. Your gifts sustain, encourage and further the mission and ministries marked out for us by a loving Providence.

This year, we are particularly grateful for your assistance in achieving the goal of our capital campaign to repair the signature bell tower of our Church of the Immaculate Conception. Your generosity also allowed us to install a handicap accessible entrance near the church and to create a landscape design to accommodate the new entrance. What a joy it is to see how many persons now have easy access to the church for liturgy, prayer services and visits to pray at the Shrine of Saint Mother Theodore Guerin.

I also want to acknowledge the generosity of the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO). This office administers monies from its diocesan annual appeal to support aging religious. The monies are collected in Catholic parishes across the United States in December. NRRO distributes those monies as grants in response to proposals submitted by religious communities of sisters, brothers and priests.

We received three such grants in 2015. One grant was to assist us in developing and implementing a Spirituality of Aging program — i.e., to do what we can to create a program for “aging in place.”


The second grant allowed us to hire a consultant firm to survey all of our land and buildings to assess their monetary and future use possibilities as sources of income or their liabilities to our financial and mission-driven needs. This information has been very helpful in decisions related to land and buildings, as well as our ability to continue quality care for our elderly sisters.

Thanks to a third grant awarded to us by NRRO, we were given funds to implement their recommendation to renovate the former Woods Day Care/Pre-School building and move the Congregation administrative offices, formerly located at Owens Hall, there. Owens Hall was decommissioned during this period and is now vacant, awaiting a favorable November response to an application for state funding to convert it into senior affordable housing. Owens Hall needed hundreds of thousands of dollars of new systems and repair which we could not afford, given the underutilization of the building.

All of this to say, if you donate to the annual diocesan collection for aging religious, thank you! You are helping us and many congregations provide for a more secure future.

Recently, when I thanked a donor for her gift, she replied apologetically: “I don’t give very much.” I assured her that every gift helps us because of the love that is its source. Only after that encounter did I remember the Scripture of the “widow’s mite.” Jesus comments that each of us gives according to what we have to give. Your love and friendship that motivate each gift provide an invaluable contribution to the Sisters of Providence but, more importantly, to the mission that Providence needs us to fulfill. So very simply, the Sisters of Providence thank you, each of you, from the bottom of our hearts.

In Providence,



Sister Denise Wilkinson, SP  
General Superior

## Our programs and events welcomed 32,119 visitors to Saint Mary-of-the Woods.

- # of participants:**
- 3,966 .....at programs, retreats, workshops and prayer services
  - 13,211 .....at weddings and receptions
  - 8,267 .....at Sunday Brunch at the Woods
  - 1,500 .....at Earth Day
  - 8,267 .....for pilgrimages/tours
  - 660.....at Christmas Fun at the Woods



## Connections made with SP social media

- 137,350 Website visitors
- 6,006 Facebook followers on 5 pages
- 1,772 Twitter followers on 4 accounts
- 402 Instagram followers
- 180 Pinterest followers on 2 accounts

## SP Outreach

- 68,000 Outreach to people at L.A. Religious Education Congress and National Catholic Youth Conference
- 11 Interns at White Violet Center for Eco-Justice
- 148 Alpaca adoptions
- 152 Occasional Volunteers at White Violet Center for Eco-Justice

## Total donors 2014-15 5,261

- New donors 576
- Increased their giving 1,716
- Gave after a lapse in giving 1,001
- Repeated their gift from last year 1,481
- Decreased their giving 487



**Your gifts blessed us in 2015!** During our **175th anniversary year** of Saint Mother Theodore's arrival at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, you supported some extraordinary projects and ministries. You collaborated with others to create a more just and hope-filled world through prayer, education, service and advocacy.

Below are listed just some of the ways that **your gifts and your support in 2015** made an impact in our lives and in the lives of those we serve in ministry:

- Our sisters who are elderly or ill received **excellent medical care and physical, occupational and respiratory therapy**. They also enjoyed daily spiritual and community activities, as well as planned social events.
- Sisters feel your support as they **minister in many places in the United States and in Asia**. Our sisters are educators, parish life coordinators and social service professionals. The sisters address people's needs and show **love, mercy and justice** by being present to those they serve. They receive similar presence from others.
- You helped us reach and **surpass our Capital Campaign goal related to the Church of the Immaculate Conception**. See income details on next page.
- Your support of Congregation programs for **vocations, the Providence Associate relationship and for volunteer/intern services** engaged others to spread our mission.
- Providence Spirituality & Conference Center**, a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Providence here at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, reached out to people of all faith traditions who sought spiritual/personal renewal through workshops, days of reflection, prayer and retreats. **The Shrine of Saint Mother Theodore Guerin** attracted pilgrims and tour groups.
- Your gifts make a difference at **White Violet Center for Eco-Justice**, also a sponsored ministry, whose mission is teaching, caring, inspiring for all Creation. Eco-spirituality permeates workshops, classes and retreats. Visitors take reverence for Earth and a deeper understanding of our place on it back home with them.
- You assist us when you attend **events or programs** and use social media to inform others about the Sisters of Providence. When you volunteer at our ministries. When you tell others of Saint Mother Theodore Guerin and suggest a tour/pilgrimage to the Woods.
- And lastly, your support helps **maintain our buildings and grounds**, our roadways and sidewalks which enable us to offer hospitality and to share the Woods with those who visit or tour.

## Consecutive — year givers 1,510

People who have **given each year** to the Sisters of Providence for **more than 10 years**.

- 10-14 years = 814
- 15-19 years = 398
- 20-24 years = 211
- 25-29 years = 87



## Alumnae association gifts \$58,375

Grade school, high school and college alumnae represent **49% of total donors**.



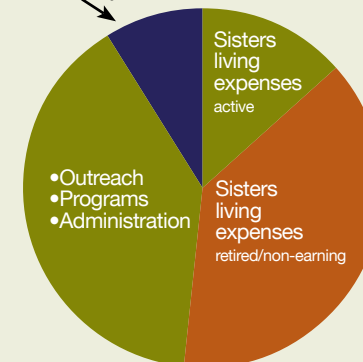
## Development total income \$6,527,735



## Congregation Total Income \$23,025,800

See breakdown on following page

Payments to SP Community Support Trust and Social Security Tax



## Congregation Total Expenses \$22,029,900

See breakdown on following page

## Estate gifts

Estate gifts represent some of our largest alumnae gifts. However, "surprise" estates don't allow us to express our thanks to you. **If you plan to leave the Sisters of Providence in your will or estate, please contact Connie Gualano at 812-535-2811 • cgualano@spsmw.org**

Of the \$2,100,930 total alumnae donations, 59% was realized from 25 estate gifts.



## Total development income \$6,527,735

### Eco-justice efforts - \$26,528

Gifts to White Violet Center for Eco-Justice further our ministry of caring for all creation.

### Church Capital Campaign - \$626,214

Thanks to our benefactors we almost reached our \$800,000 campaign goal by the end of our 2015 fiscal year (and in fact surpassed our goal going into our 2016 fiscal year). Funds raised were used to restore the Church of the Immaculate Conception bell tower, install a handicap accessible entrance closer to the church and attend to related projects. The excess funds will be used for additional projects related to the church.

### Special projects - \$865,874

Donations not mentioned above, e.g., stained glass window preservation in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel; outdoor signage; St. Michael statue landscaping; Mission in Asia; teaching kitchen at White Violet Center.

### Advancing the mission - \$1,686,043

Enables us to be the face of Providence to those in need through our various programs and ministries of service, prayer and presence.

### Retirement fund - \$1,786,215

Your gifts to our Retirement Fund assist us in the care of our sisters who are retired or infirm. Included in this fund is a share in the diocesan annual collections from the National Religious Retirement Office of \$430,021.

### Saint Mother Theodore Guerin Shrine funds - \$54,431

The new Shrine is open and people visit daily!

### Grant income - \$680,000

National Religious Retirement Office planning and Spirituality of Aging grants; Advancing the Mission grant.

### Other - \$802,430

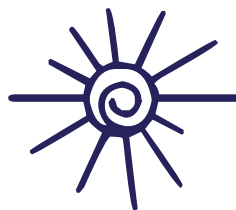
Gifts-in-kind; parish mission appeals; activities, e.g., Earth Day and Hole-y-One Golf Scramble.



## Congregational profile



- **Financial benefactors** - 5,261
- **Prayer benefactors** - impossible to calculate or even know, yet its benefits are felt every day!
- **Providence Associates** - 224
- **Providence Candidate-Associates** - 42
- **SP Volunteer Services** individuals/groups who volunteer regularly at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods and the Terre Haute area. - 80/7
- **Board and committee members** of sponsored institutions/ministries and the Congregation - 139
- **Staff members** - 136



### Membership

- Permanently professed - 297
- Temporary professed - 5
- Novices - 3
- Transfer Process - 1



### Age distribution total 306

20-34 .....	3	65-79....	126
35-49 .....	9	80-100..	142
50-64 .....	26		

### Geographic distribution

- 14 states
- District of Columbia
- Asia

## Congregation total income

**\$23,025,800** ✓

### Sisters' earnings \$2,697,400

All stipends, salaries and other remuneration received by SPs for ministry.

### SP Community Support Trust (SPCST)

**\$7,276,900** Income from the trust established to pay monthly support benefits to SPs reaching age 70 and older and/or who are disabled.

### Social Security and other retirement benefits

**\$2,581,500**  
Social Security benefits for eligible SPs.

### Investments and other \$3,942,300

**Investment income:** interest and dividends generated from assets held to support the Congregation's general operations.

**Other:** farmland revenue, White Violet Center for Eco-Justice programs, use of residence buildings; Providence Spirituality & Conference Center facilities rental, program fees and Linden Leaf Gifts.

### Contributions and grants \$6,527,735

The majority of these funds are received from donors through the activities of the Mission Advancement office.

## Congregation total expenses

**\$22,029,900** ✓

### Living expenses (active/earning SPs)

**\$2,949,000**

Include rent, utilities, food, clothing, medical, transportation, recreation, communication, personal supplies, annual retreat, and professional, religious and educational activities.

### Living expenses (retired/non-earning SPs)

**\$8,444,500**

Costs for non-earning SPs who are 70 and older and/or are disabled. Categories include those listed above plus health-care facilities expenses including nursing care, physical and occupational therapy, outpatient services and prescriptions.

### Outreach/programs/administration

**\$8,726,000**

Costs for sponsored programs and ministries, e.g., New Membership, Providence Associate Relationship, Providence Spirituality & Conference Center, SP Volunteer Services, White Violet Center for Eco-Justice, poverty/justice funding and ministry funds; General administration and department staffs, Congregation meetings & committees.

### Payments to Sisters of Providence Community

Support Trust and Social Security Tax **\$1,910,400**