

# SND USA

One Heart. One Hope. One Mission.



*Sisters of Notre Dame  
of the United States*

# One Heart

Centered in Jesus Christ,  
we are united as a  
community in love.

# One Hope

Our experience of God's  
goodness leads us to trust  
God's provident care for  
the future.

# One Mission

We devote ourselves  
to making God's love  
present through service.



Dear Friends,

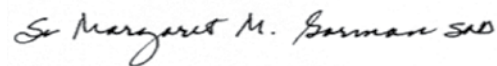
On July 5, 2020, the four United States provinces of the Sisters of Notre Dame united to form a single province. Why and how did this come about? What effects will this change have? We answered these questions in the context of our membership in an international congregation, which calls its members in 17 countries on five continents to be united in One Heart, One Hope, and One Mission.

For the first 50 years of our history in the United States, we were one American province. Dividing into four geographic centers facilitated the growth of membership and ministries as the congregation became deeply involved in each geographic area.

Today advances in technology, communication and travel have opened new methods of sharing our spirituality and mission. Our institutions and ministries in each geographic area will benefit from greater collaboration with both individuals and organizations as we combine our national efforts and resources.

"Becoming one" as SND USA brings renewed enthusiasm and frees us to develop new ways to serve people today. We have relied on God's goodness and provident care, and the support of our co-workers and our many partners in mission to make this expanded mission a reality. We go forward filled with hope, trusting in God who makes all things new!

Gratefully,



Sr. Margaret M. Gorman, SND  
Provincial

# 1874



## Our Story Begins

On **July 4, 1874**, eight pioneer Sisters of Notre Dame arrived in the United States. Fleeing anti-Catholic legislation in Prussia, more than 200 sisters had arrived in Ohio and Kentucky by 1880. Invited to serve German immigrants, the sisters soon expanded their ministries to include other ethnic groups in parish elementary and high schools.

By 1924, with more than 650 sisters serving in dozens of locations, the Sisters of Notre Dame divided into three provinces, or administrative units, and sent the first SND missionaries to Los Angeles. The sisters in each geographic area built their own administrative centers and schools and welcomed new members. From each location the sisters extended their education, healthcare and faith formation ministries across the United States and to new international missions.

With the advent of 21st century communication technologies, the sisters began planning for a shared future that would combine their strengths and ministry commitments into a broad national platform for expanded outreach and service.



# 2020

## A New Chapter Unfolds

On **July 5, 2020**, after nine years of preparation, the four provinces of Chardon, Covington, Thousand Oaks, and Toledo reunited as one U.S. province.

Today, the Sisters of Notre Dame are an international community of prayerful, passionate women which spans five continents, 14 time zones, and 17 countries. These women are called from all walks of life, at various times of their lives, from different careers, cultures and collective experiences.



Thousand Oaks, CA



Covington, KY



Toledo, OH



Chardon, OH



# SND USA Leadership Team



**Sister Margaret Mary Gorman**  
**Provincial, SND USA**

Served as Provincial in the Chardon, Ohio province. Extensive background in education and administration in Ohio, North Carolina, and Florida.



**Sister Mary Shauna Bankemper**  
**Assistant Provincial, SND USA**

Served as Provincial in the Covington, Kentucky province and as Assistant General for the international SND congregation in Rome. Extensive background in education.



**Sister Regina Marie Fisher**  
**Council Member, SND USA**

Served as a Parish Leader (Administrator) and Director of the Lial Renewal Center in Toledo, Ohio province. Ministry areas include primary education and pastoral care.



**Sister Patricia Mary Garrahan**  
**Council Member, SND USA**

Served as Provincial Councilor and Treasurer in the Chardon, Ohio province. Focused outreach in education and senior administration throughout Florida, Maryland, and Washington, DC.



**Sister Mary Rebekah Kennedy**  
**Council Member, SND USA**

Served as the Dean of Mission at La Reina High School and Assistant Provincial in the Thousand Oaks, California province. Extensive background in education and pastoral ministry.



Together, the Sisters of Notre Dame across the United States collaborate nationwide on three mission priorities:



To sustain the mission of the Education and Health Care institutions that the sisters founded



To serve the new needs of the 21st century through emerging Ministries on the Margins



To reach out to young adults seeking meaning and life direction and accompany those entering a journey toward a religious vocation

The sisters remain a strong presence in each geographic region, and their friends, associates, patrons and volunteers are important partners in the SND USA story, furthering the SND mission across the country.

# Education & Healthcare Ministries



More than 150 Sisters of Notre Dame are still in active education ministries across nine states. Sisters serve in various roles—from administrators, faculty and staff, to tutors and volunteers in early childhood education through college/university, and adult education.

All SND USA-sponsored schools share four guiding principles which characterize the SND educational vision and mission.

- The Centrality of a Good and Provident God
- The Human Dignity of Each Person as an Image of God
- The Notre Dame Educator as Gospel Witness
- An Integrated Education for Transformation

In addition to education, the Sisters of Notre Dame have a history of caring for the sick and elderly. SND-founded healthcare institutions are a vital part of their communities, providing exceptional care to people of all faiths.





# Ministries on the Margins



Ministries on the Margins encompass a host of SND ministries serving those living on the fringes of mainstream society.

A collaborative delivery model takes advantage of strong connections with community partners, volunteers, and governmental agencies in addressing issues around poverty, social injustice, and environmental degradation.

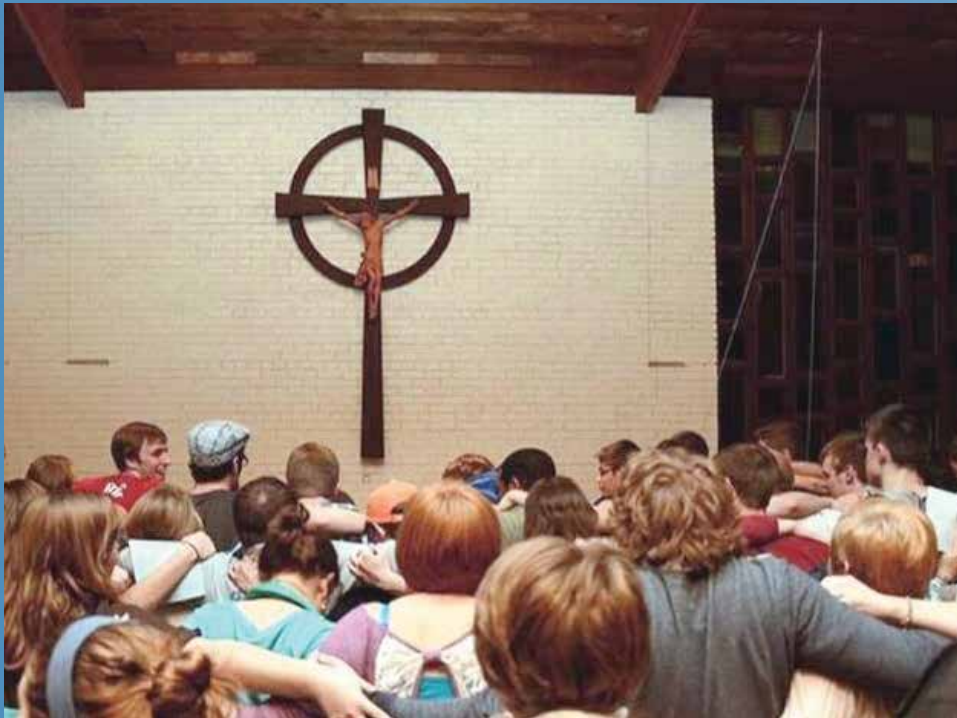
The current challenges being addressed include:

- Human trafficking
- Women and children in crisis
- Homelessness
- Hunger
- Poverty
- Immigration
- Racism

Along with ministry expansions in the United States, SND-founded international missions continue to provide services in India, East Africa, and Papua New Guinea. While much of the work is now carried out by native sisters in each of these countries, frequent opportunities for exchanges between the United States and the mission countries deepen relationships among "Sisters without Borders."



# Vocation & Young Adult Ministry



Expanding their historic commitment to children and adolescents, the Sisters of Notre Dame are reaching out to young adults. Through a variety of panel discussions, retreats, service opportunities, social media platforms, and one-on-one conversations, sisters connect with young adults seeking a deeper spirituality and meaningful life direction.

The SND Vocation & Young Adult team members, representing the four geographic areas, serve as spiritual directors for retreats and ongoing spiritual accompaniment. They also walk with young adults who are discerning a life commitment in a religious vocation.

**Retreats/group programs and discussions/events**

**Volunteer and service opportunities/  
small group discussions**

**Spiritual direction/  
spiritual mentoring**

**One-on-one  
Vocation  
conversations**



# SND USA on the Map



## SND USA-Sponsored Schools/Education Centers

### Chardon, Ohio

Julie Billiart Schools  
Notre Dame Elementary School  
Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School  
Notre Dame College

### Toledo, Ohio

Lial Catholic School  
Maria Early Learning Center  
Notre Dame Academy & Jr. Academy

### Covington, Kentucky

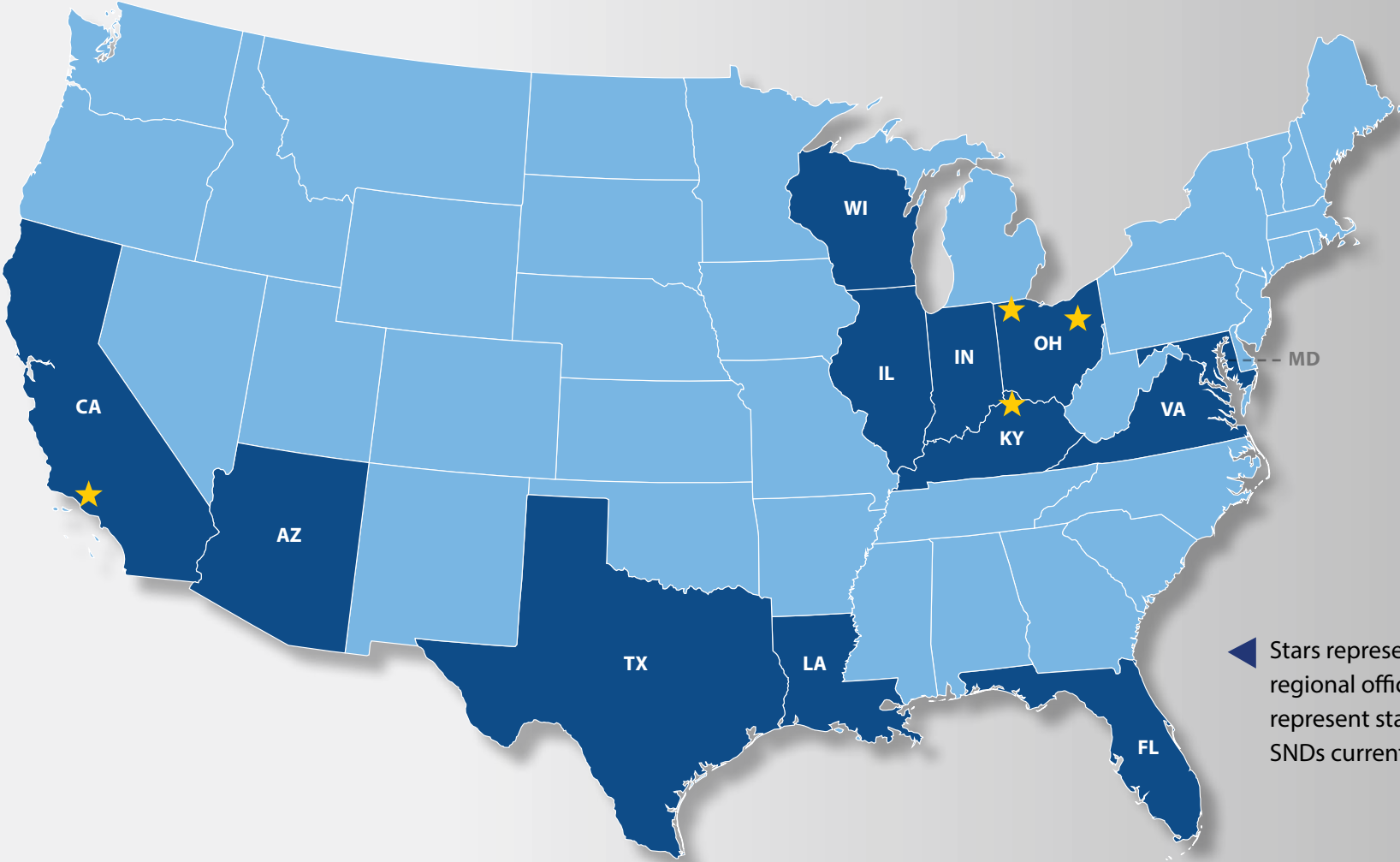
Julie Learning Center  
Notre Dame Academy  
Notre Dame Urban Education Center

### Thousand Oaks, California

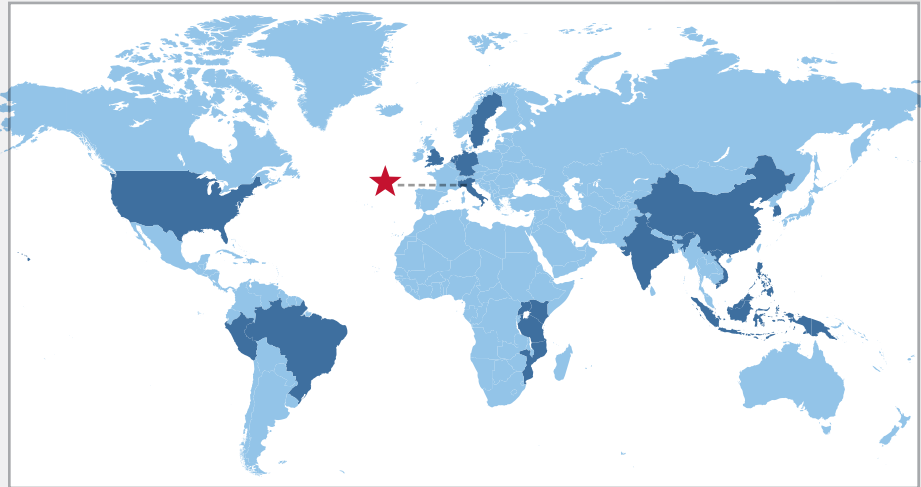
La Reina High School & Middle School  
Notre Dame Academy Elementary School  
Notre Dame Academy  
Notre Dame Learning Center  
Preschool

Total number of students nationwide  
attending SND schools:

5,800



Stars represent the SND regional offices. Dark blue represent states where SNDs currently minister.



The Sisters of Notre Dame are an international community spanning five continents, 14 time zones and 17 countries. Along with ministry expansions in the U.S., SND-founded international missions continue to provide services in **India**, **East Africa** and **Papua New Guinea**. The SND international office is located in **Rome**.



## **SND USA-Sponsored Healthcare Facilities**

### **Covington, Kentucky**

#### **St. Charles Community**

An eldercare facility serving senior adults including an adult day care program, 62 cottages and 71 apartments for seniors, a therapy department, personal care suites, home care and private duty nursing.



#### **St. Claire HealthCare**

A rural healthcare system serving more than 5,400 inpatient admissions, 3,800 surgeries, 90,500 family medicine patients, 32,000 emergency room patients and more than 61,000 home care visits each year.

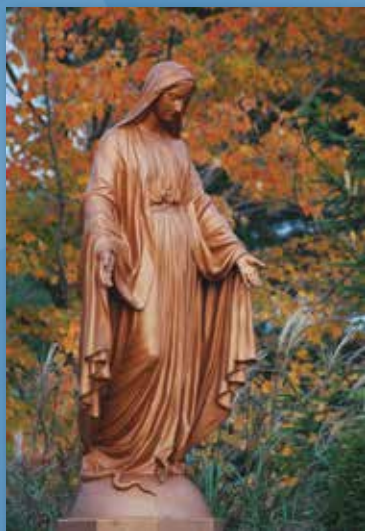


### **Chardon, Ohio**

#### **Notre Dame Village**

A senior living community serving approximately 150 residents including 36 assisted-living memory care beds, 81 one- and two-bedroom apartments, and 20 two-bedroom cottage homes with six more under construction.





## How You Can Help

How can you become a part of our great story? **Join us. Get involved. Volunteer. Donate.** Our collective efforts are strengthened by our shared faith in God's love, the strong desire of people in all walks of life to make a difference, and the sheer numbers of individuals and sisters willing to step forward and act!

Now more than ever, our world needs people to come together and work as one. We invite you to be a part of our mission in your unique way.



Sisters of Notre Dame of the United States of America  
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