



FOUNDATION NEWS

for the SSJ Sisters, Agrégées, Associates,
Ministries, Trustees & Staff

Website and Facebook

Keep informed about the ongoing work of the
Sisters of St. Joseph Mission & Ministries Foundation -

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www.ssjmmf.org

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new!

The 35th SSJ Thanksgiving Dinner was a blessing for the community with 60 volunteers, 656 gifts, 900 pounds of turkey, 1,300 meals delivered with love and prayers, and 60 nonprofit organizations receiving a total of \$69,600!



Five nonprofit organizations received their first gift; they include (clockwise starting top left): *Kind Veg* (Founder Katherine Green with Mary Fromknecht, SSJ); *Urban Erie Community Development Corporation*; *Bethany Outreach Group of Erie* (Mary Fromknecht, SSJ, with Director Mabel Howard); *Shepherd's Green Food Pantry*, Franklin, PA (St. John's Episcopal volunteers Gavin McNally, Pauline and Michael Grill, Rev. Shawn Clerkin, and Davin McNally); and *United Way of Erie County Community School Stores* (Gannon President Walter Iwanenko, United Way President Laurie Root, and Metz Culinary Management Director, Brittany Travers).



2023 Thanksgiving Fund Nonprofit Recipients and our 2024 January Donors!

On behalf of the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Foundation is happy to have gifted \$69,600 from the 2023 Thanksgiving Fund to 60 nonprofit agencies who serve our neighbors with food year-round.

And...a huge thank you to our 2024 January donors for supporting the needs of the Sisters of St. Joseph and our neighbors across the region.

(Please see attached recipients and donor lists.)

Meet the Foundation Team:



Standing (L-R):
Carleen Onuschak,
Almitra Clerkin &
Carol Hermann;
Sitting (L-R):
Cathy Fresch &
Mary Drexler, SSJ

Our Team has come together to achieve a common goal to serve the Sisters, their mission, and their ministries.

Meet the Ministry Leaders:



Standing (L-R):
Allen Bonace
(Saint Mary's Home of Erie CEO);
Samantha Stump
(St. James Haven -Meadville Exec. Director);
Heather Caspar
(SSJ Neighborhood Network Exec. Director)
Kneeling (L-R):
Emma Berkstresser
(Saint Mary's Home of Erie Marketing/Dev. Director);
Shelby Folga
(St. Patrick's Haven Exec. Director);
Susannah Faulkner
(SSJ Neighborhood Network Dev. Director)

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Styles & Smiles



Congratulations to Jude Marie Talerico, SSJ, for coming up with the name of the Sisters' newly renovated hair salon - *Styles & Smiles!* The reveal took place at February's House Meeting with cookies by Abigail's Sweet Treats (North East), spelling out the salon name on the delicious circular and scissor-shaped cookies. The Foundation received a generous grant from *The Norbert H. Hardner Foundation* to remodel the 1993 salon into a modern and colorful place. We look forward to celebrating the grand opening once the new sign and art are affixed. More soon!

The good God expects



Rev. Jerome Simmons, SSJ Chaplain, shared God's love and what He expects of us. In short, "God uses us for good."



Our belief in God drives our generosity.

Together, we care for our neighbors in body, mind, and spirit.

The SSJ Mission and our ministries are vessels to carry out the good God expects.

We continue to reach our neighbors with your support.

Please consider making your annual gift to the *SSJ Mission & Ministries Foundation.*

Go to:

<https://ssjmmf.org/donate-now/>

