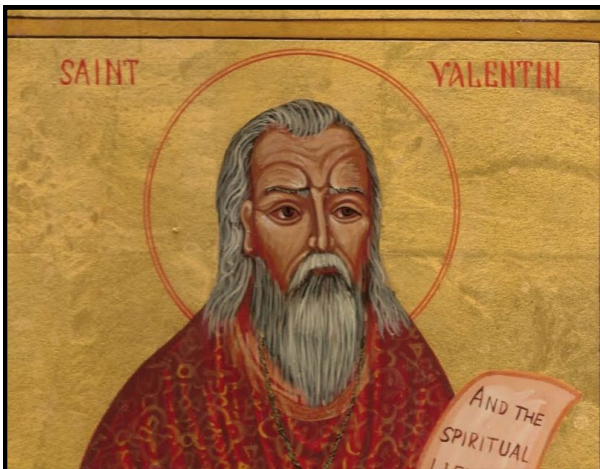


FOUNDATION NEWS

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

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

A Sundry Tradition of Love and Kindness



On February 14, around the year 270, a Roman priest called Valentine was stoned and beheaded. In 496, Pope Gelasius marked February 14 as St. Valentine's Day in dedication of his martyrdom.

For centuries, St. Valentine has been associated with romance, love and devotion. Yet little is known about his life – it is not even clear whether he was one person, or two.

Here are 10 facts about the man behind Valentine's Day:

1. He was a 3rd-Century Roman Clergyman
2. He had the 'Power of Healing'
3. '*From Your Valentine*' originates from a letter of his
4. His skull, adorned with flowers, is on display in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin, Rome
5. In 1836, his blood was gifted to a Carmelite Priest, in a vessel 'tinged' with Valentine's blood, from Pope Gregory XVI
6. He is the Patron Saint of Epilepsy
7. He may have been two different people
8. There are many St. Valentines throughout the centuries
9. His association with *LOVE* began in the Middle Ages
10. Valentine's Day may have been penned by Chaucer in a poem

Read more about St. Valentine at <https://www.historyhit.com/facts-about-saint-valentine/>
(Léonie Chao-Fo - February 14, 2020)

JANUARY DONORS

Thank you for being our Valentine
as you share your love and
kindness with the Sisters and
their ministries through the
Foundation!

Please see the attached donor list!



almi.clerkin@ssjerie.org

814.836.4202



www.ssjmmf.org



2024 THANKSGIVING STATS:

641 donors

\$78,094 gifts of support

900 pounds of turkey

14 cases of corn

seven cases of stuffing

10 cases of potatoes

four cases of gravy

1,400 Mega Chocolate Chunk cookies

\$76,600 was gifted to

56 nonprofits on Sunday, Jan. 26.

**They will use these gifts to feed
our neighbors year-round!**

St. Patrick's Haven inaugural Fundraising Event!



Please join us and our Emcees,
Drs. Walter and Mary Iwanenko,
President and First Lady of Gannon!

REGISTER @
stpatrickshaven.org

2025 PREP GALA

Honoring Libby Felix Waltman VMA '03,
Jim Rutkowski, Jr. '79, and the
Don '49 & Mary Ann Fessler Family!



Joining SSJ Claudia Dombrowski,
Mary Drexler, and Nancy Fischer,
are SSJMMF Trustee Chair Meghan Fuhrman
and Trustee Joe Kloecker, along with SSJ
supporter Marilyn Reiser, and Almitra Clerkin,
SSJMMF Executive Director.