HEART TO HEART The Official Newsletter of the Sacred Heart Foundation

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DECEMBER 2022 EDITION

A foundation providing scholarships to individuals studying to be priests and brothers of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart anywhere in the world.

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According to multiple sources, in 1670, in Cologne, Germany, the choirmaster at Cologne Cathedral, wishing to remedy the noise caused by children in the church during the Living Creche tradition of Christmas Eve, asked a local candy maker for some "sugar sticks" for them. In order to justify the practice of giving candy to children during worship services, he asked the candy maker to add a crook to the top of each stick, which would help children remember the shepherds who visited the infant Jesus. In addition, he used the white color of the sticks to teach children about the sinless life of Jesus. From Germany, candy canes spread to other parts of Europe, where they were handed out during plays reenacting the Nativity. From then on, the candy cane became associated with the Christmas season. Sometime around the 1900s, the red stripes were added, and they were flavored with peppermint or wintergreen.

Although most of the candy cane's history and meaning are speculative, it still does not take away from the fact that this delicious confectionary can be used as a teaching instrument and a reminder of what the Christmas season is all about. Below is a poem commonly used to associate and tell the legend of the candy cane.

> "Look at a candy cane and what do you see? Stripes that are red like the blood Christ gave for me. White is for God's Son, who's sinless and pure. J is for Jesus, my Savior, that's for sure! Turn it around and a staff you will see-Jesus, my good shepherd who cares for me!"

From our family to yours, Wishing you a very Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year!



A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Like many of you, Christmas may be my favorite time of year. Winter has just started so I haven't yet reached the point when cabin fever sets in. The year is coming to a close and I look forward to each New Year with the hopes that it may be better than the last. I'm also blessed with an extremely organized wife who plans for the season well in advance. By December 1st, our shopping will be mostly completed. A handful of last minute items, mostly my gifts for her, are all that are left to purchase. I used to tease her about her almost obsessive level or preparation, but I came to the realization that her careful planning gave me the greatest gift of all....time. Time to remember why we celebrate Christmas in the first place. Time to enjoy gathering with family, friends and co-workers to enjoy the holiday season. Time to pause for a moment and realize all of the wonderful things in life and time to remember the many people who are much less fortunate.

This Christmas season, I hope you are able to take some time as well. Before the stresses of the holiday season start to wear on you, remember the words of Pope Francis when he said, "Christmas reveals the immense love of God for humanity. From that flows also the enthusiasm, the hope of us Christians, that in our poverty we know that we are loved, we are visited, accompanied by God; and we see the world and history as the place in which we journey together with him and amongst ourselves, towards a new heaven and a new earth." From all of us at the Sacred Heart Foundation we would like to say thank you for your love and kindness. Your generosity supports the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in their ministry around the world. We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Planned Giving

Are you turning 72 this year? Has your financial institution told you that you have to take a required minimum distribution from your IRA? Are you thinking to yourself, "I don't really need that money"? If so, it may make sense to call your financial advisor and ask her to set up a charitable distribution directly from your IRA.

Individuals over age 70 can donate up to \$100,000 from an IRA directly to a qualified charity without triggering any federal income taxes. Under the qualified charitable distributions provision, you request a distribution from your IRA and provide your financial advisor with the name and address of the qualifying charity. The distribution can be sent directly to the charity of your choice...like the Sacred Heart Foundation!

There are a number of potential tax benefits to you for making a charitable contribution directly from your IRA. (1) Income tax on the distribution is avoided, even if you do not itemize deductions and even if your gifts exceed the percentage of income limits for charitable deductions. (2) The distribution does not increase your adjusted gross income for purposes of reducing itemized deductions, nor does it limit the amount of deductible medical expenses or miscellaneous itemized deductions or increase the taxation of your Social Security benefits. (3) If the state you live in determines taxable income based on federal adjusted gross income, there is no state income tax on the distribution, even if the state does not allow the charitable deduction.

Maybe now is the time to speak to your financial advisor or tax professional to see if a donation directly from your IRA to the Sacred Heart Foundation, makes sense for you.

Sacred Heart Foundation Frank Caprara Memorial Golf Tournament Coming June 2023

Updated information will be available on our website www.sacredheartfoundation.com

Tax Statements

The Foundation office mails tax statements in January. Letters are mailed to those who have donated, cumulatively, \$250.00 or more in the calendar year. If you do not receive a tax letter and wish to have one mailed to you, please contact the office at (315) 782-3344.

Election Results

On September 20, 2022, the annual meeting was held at the Annual Benefit Dinner. The results of the election are as follows:

Nominated and elected for a three-year term ending December 31, 2024, was Dcn. Bernard Slate. Nominated and elected for a three-year term ending December 31, 2025, were Fr. Raymond Diesbourg, MSC, Judy Pearson, Tamasina Sharlow, Rose Busler, and Frank Reff.

Thank you for continuing to serve on the Sacred Heart Foundation board and giving $\mathbf{2}$ your time and talent to fulfill our mission.

Sacred Heart Foundation

320 West Lynde Street Watertown, New York 13601 (315)782-3344 Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9-2 e-mail: mail@sacredheartfoundation. com

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MSC World News MSCs Together in Prayer in South Sudan



Fr. Alan Neville, MSC writes from South Sudan, where MSC Superior General, Fr. Abzalon Alvarado, MSC, spent a week experiencing local ministries in July.

"Soon after arriving in South Sudan in November 2020 for my current appointment, I received a message from Fr. Abzalon, the MSC Superior General, wishing me the best with the new mission and saying that he would like to visit one day. Less than two years later, I was finally able to welcome him.

Part of the Superior General's mission was to see what was happening in the Diocese of Rumbek and to explore if there was a need for a greater MSC presence. To that end, we met with the head of religious missionaries in the country, the coordinator of the Jesuit Refugee Service, and Christian Carlassare, the newly ordained Bishop of the Diocese of Rumbek, before traveling to Loretto Rumbek, which served as Fr. Abzalon's base for the week.

Fr. Abzalon had the opportunity to explore the Loreto compound, as well as the Catholic University of South Sudan, Rumbek, where I work as principal. We also took part in the 45 kilometer peace walk to the Parish of the Good Shepherd in Thonaduiel, celebrated South Sudan's Independence Day, spent time in some of the local villages in Maker Kuei, and visited the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred *Heart in Mapourdit.*

Having had the opportunity to experience a taste of our current ministry here, Fr. Abzalon wrote:

The mission...is a wonderful and prophetic project of education and integral promotion, especially of young women. The community there struggle day by day to build and transform this challenging and complex, but at the same time, beautiful reality. The Chevalier Family is present in South Sudan.

Sincere thanks for your support of our missionaries all over the world.

God Bless.

Fr. Alan"



<u>Getting to Know Those You Support</u>



Zakarias Mayabubun is from Minahasa, Indonesia. Zakarias tells us what attracted him to the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart "I'm interested in becoming a part of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart because of the spirituality of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to love everyone." During his free time, Zakarias enjoys playing sports, especially volleyball. Some of his hobbies include reading. Zakarias is going for his MSC Scholasticate.

Suliano Qaliwaga is from Wailoku, Fiji. Suliano tells us what attracted him to the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. "The mission of the MSC society and their community life attracted me. It helps me understand my nature and the people I live with. The MSC's life and mission are to be with the people and not be alone. The support and bond with the members and people are what keeps us going." During his free time, Suliano enjoys playing sports. Some of his hobbies include socializing. Suliano is in their fourth year of Theology.



Please keep Zakarias and Suliano as well as all of our scholarship recipients in your prayers as they continue their studies. Thank you for all your support. It is through your donations that we are able to provide the financial support they need.

<u>Memories from the 49th Annual Benefit Dinner</u>











Thank You to our **Dinner Sponsors**

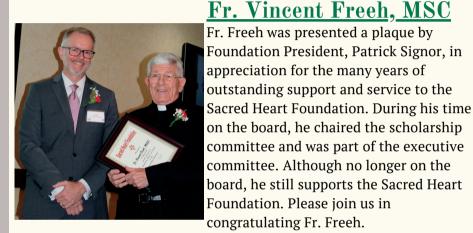
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<u>New Named Scholarship</u> We are proud to announce our 60th named scholarship:

"Fr. Pierre Aubin, MSC and Msgr. Paul Whitmore Scholarship"

**Criteria for having a named scholarship is having an accumulated donation balance of \$15,000 or more. Contact the office to find out how you can have a named scholarship. You may be closer than you think!

This Year's Dinner Honorees



Daniel J. Villa

Dan Villa was presented a plaque by Foundation President, Patrick Signor, in appreciation for the many years of outstanding support and service to the Sacred Heart Foundation. He served as president of the Foundation during the pandemic, which was no easy feat, and did a fantastic job. He is a crucial member of the board and a committed supporter of the Foundation. Please join us in thanking and congratulating Daniel Villa.





Tamasina Sharlow

Tammy was presented a plaque by Board member, Thomas J. Bruno, in appreciation for the many years of outstanding support and service to the Sacred Heart Foundation. She has been a longtime member and supporter of the Foundation. She does whatever is asked of her, and always goes above and beyond. We can always count on her. Please join us in thanking Tammy Sharlow.

Are You a Foundation Member?

These individuals and businesses have paid dues for their 2022 membership as recorded. Payments were received from **July 16, 2022, to November 1, 2022.** Your membership tells the world you are a member of our team! If there are any questions, please call the office at (315) 782-3344 or email mail@sacredheartfoundation.com

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A very special Thank You to those who contribute more than the minimum dues each year. Your generosity is a blessing to the Foundation. -Julie Hutchins Membership Committee Chair Mr. Richard Alexander Mr. & Mrs. Gary Charlebois Ms. Mary Margaret Henry Knights of Columbus Council #259 Mr. William McGurrin Ms. Sarah Monnat Mr. & Mrs. Fred Montrois Mrs. Virginia Palumbo Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Petroff Dcn. Bernard Slate Mr. Edward Sweeny

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Thank You Fr. Joseph Kanimea, MSC By Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Perciaccante

In Recognition of Fr. Pierre Aubin, MSC By Mr. & Mrs. William Flynn

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In Recognition of Dcn. Gary & Gayle Frank "Recipient of the Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams award for Distinguished Service" By Dcn. Bernard Slate In Recognition of Fr. Joseph Kanimea, MSC By Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Perciaccante In Recognition of John & Joyce Pignone "35th Wedding Anniversary" By Mrs. Bev Hennigan

In Recognition of Richard & Jean Doell "50th Wedding Anniversary" By Mrs. Bev Hennigan



In Loving Memory of John Hill

November 17, 1929 - October 30, 2022

John Hill served on the Sacred Heart Foundation Board of Directors from 1991 to 1999. During his time on the board, John served as President for several years. In 2001, he was inducted into the Honorary Council in recognition of his continued support and contributions to the Sacred Heart Foundation. The Board of Directors and Honorary Council would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation for his years of service and support. Please keep his family in your prayers.

In Loving Memory of all Sacred Heart Foundation members who have passed away this year, a prayer of remembrance was said at mass on November 5th, 2022 in their memory. They and their families are in our prayers. May they rest in the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4



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The Sacred Heart Foundation spreads the word of God by raising funds that provide financial assistance for the education of those studying to be priests and brothers of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart anywhere in the world.