You are invited to read, study, and research the life and spirituality of Venerable Cornelia Connelly and the history of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus which she founded. View the abundant resources for personal study and reflection as well as materials for teachers and for use in creating presentations. We hope you will draw inspiration from her life and example.

Wife, Mother, Foundress of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus

Cornelia’s Legacy Goes Digital
Dear Friends,

You are a part of our history. Perhaps you are a Sister, an Associate, a current or former student, an educator, ministry director, or volunteer. Whether your connection with the Society has been brief or sustained, the Holy Child mission and spirit have touched you, and you and the Society have been enriched by our mutual relationship. Together, we have made history, and living history is the focus of this issue, through the contemporary medium of the internet. I invite you to embark on a pilgrimage to explore the Holy Child heritage using the resources available through the Cornelia Connelly Digital Library at https://corneliaconnellylibrary.org.

Every year, millions seek a stronger connection with their faith. Some travel to spiritual destinations to honor traditions they value. Some devote themselves to prayer and service. Here is an opportunity for you to be a virtual traveler into the treasure chest of documents, artifacts, and creative materials that express and continue the Holy Child legacy. While navigating this site, you may ponder Cornelia’s writings, find comfort or wisdom in her words of advice, and be inspired by the story of the Society she founded. As you do so, I hope the events of the past will come alive for you, and give you fresh energy and vision for your own life of faith and service.

I hope, too, that you will enjoy using these tools both to nourish your own life and to foster a wider understanding of the SHCJ mission among colleagues, friends, and neighbors, so that many others may be touched by Cornelia’s strong spirit of love in action. Blessings on your journey!

Lovingly,

Mary Ann Buckley, SHCJ
Province Leader

Actions is published by the American Province of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus. Please direct comments to:

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
1341 Montgomery Avenue
Rosemont, PA 19010
610.626.1400, x320  phone
actions@shcj.org  e-mail

EDITOR
Kim Cavallero

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
Tese Currie, SHCJ (M. M. Aloysius)
Sandy Lovascio
Michael Paolucci

DESIGN
Karp Graphic Design

PRINTING
Conner Printing, Inc.

Connect With Us
Sign up to receive our e-communications. Send your name and e-mail address to actions@shcj.org.
Like Us on Facebook www.facebook.com/HolyChild
Follow Us on Twitter www.twitter.com/holychildsister
Watch Us on YouTube www.youtube.com/holychildsisters
Blog With Us http://blog.shcj.org/
View Our Photos www.flickr.com/photos/holychildsisters/sets/
Inspiration. That’s the only word to describe it. At Holy Child schools and ministries across the country, as well as in Chile and the Dominican Republic, more than 10,000 people are empowered to develop their God-given gifts and talents every year.

These schools and ministries are lead by talented women and men who have partnered with the Sisters of the Holy Child. Individuals such as Diana Pinto, the Program Director of the South Central Los Angeles Ministry Project (SC LAMP), and David Chiles, the Executive Director of Providence Center, lead with faith and dedication.

As we continue to highlight the remarkable individuals who have transformed their lives with the help of our ministries this year, Diana and David give us a glimpse into just how dedicated the directors of our ministries are by sharing the stories of two individuals they have watched blossom at SC LAMP and Providence Center. How blessed the SHCJ are to have such faith-filled partners in ministry.

An Inspiring New Direction

By Diana Pinto, Program Director, South Central Los Angeles Ministry Project, Los Angeles, CA

Lybi took English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at the South Central Los Angeles Ministry Project (SC LAMP) for two years. Recently, she applied to the Redondo Beach Beauty School. Not only was she accepted, but she was awarded a scholarship! Because Lybi’s classes at Redondo Beach are taught in English, she is most grateful for the two years she spent learning English at SC LAMP.

In addition, through SC LAMP’s early childhood program and the parenting classes and workshops, Lybi came to know the value of early childhood education and she knew exactly what to look for when choosing a preschool for her daughter.

What stands out most for me is Lybi’s incredible sense of pride in herself. Part of what we do at SC LAMP is help build self-esteem in the women we serve. I believe we have definitely fulfilled our mission with Lybi.

Habla Espanol?

By David Chiles, Executive Director, Providence Center

Early in my time at Providence Center, I filled in for our afterschool program director, Rosa Sanchez, who had jury duty. Just as Rosa does, I went to the local elementary school to pick up the children. Carla, a first-grader, looked at me with tears welling up in her eyes. Speaking in English, I assured her that everything was ok, Rosa was out for the day, and I would be taking her back to Providence Center. Carla did not say a word, head bowed and braids drooping. The tears ran down her cheeks. She followed me and the other children, but she was clearly scared and my words of comfort were not helping.

We arrived at Providence Center, greeted by our Teen Leaders. These young women, all local high school students, took over with confidence and maturity, getting the children their healthy snacks, organizing them for help with their homework, and launching into the enrichment projects that were prepared for that day.

So, what was troubling Carla? Like many of the children in our afterschool program at Providence Center, Carla and
her mother are recent immigrants to the U.S. Neither of them speaks English. Though I, of all people, should have anticipated this, I did not think to speak in Spanish to Carla (my Spanish would have at least made her giggle). I know now that the change in routine—my picking up Carla instead of Rosa—and not being able to explain this to her in Spanish, scared her.

I cannot imagine what it must be like to be a small child in a new country, how isolating that must feel. It is a blessing to see how Carla has found a home at Providence Center, surrounded by her peers, cared for by teens who come from the streets where she now lives. All of us at Providence Center are learning and growing together, trying to be better for ourselves and each other.

Your generosity enables our Holy Child schools and ministries to light the way for individuals like Lybi and Carla. With your support and the compassion and dedication of the many women and men who have partnered with us, we are sharing God’s love with the world. Thank You! To make a donation, visit our website at www.shcj.org/american or use the enclosed envelope.

Cornelian Society Members: United by a Legacy of Good Works

Your commitment to the Society of the Holy Child Jesus (SHCJ) and its mission of action can be your legacy by naming the SHCJ as a beneficiary in your will, trust, or planned giving arrangement.

Join the Cornelian Society today. The process is easy, the rewards are great. Contact Sandy Lovascio at slovascio@shcj.org or 610.626.1400, x301 or visit www.shcj.org/american.

Mr. Theodore Robb is presented with the Cornelian Society pin by Carol Ann Knight, SHCJ (Sister Maria Sponsa) as he is inducted into the Cornelian Society during the Annual Appreciation Mass & Brunch. Mr. Robb accepted the pin on behalf of his mother, Miriam Ellinger.
Cornelia’s Legacy Goes Digital

It is a testament to the power of Cornelia Connelly’s vision, the strength of her faith, and the depth of her love that more than 160 years after she began the Society of the Holy Child Jesus, her philosophy continues to help others grow spiritually and academically. With little more than the spoken word, pen and paper, and the printing press to capture her teachings, Cornelia left a legacy that continues to inspire hundreds of Sisters and countless school administrators and teachers on four continents. Cornelia’s message has been carried on by the Sisters of the Holy Child for more than 150 years.

Imagine the impact of the Holy Child message if Cornelia had had access to the wonders of modern technologies—iPads, e-mail, social media, the Internet! Cornelia, who is described by historians as progressive and ahead of her time, would probably have been at the forefront of using technology to help others grow strong in their faith, promote a love of learning, a spirit of joy, and respect for every human being. The Sisters knew that they had an incredible opportunity to share their message with millions of people; and today, a group of educators, known as the Cornelia Connelly Curriculum Committee, has taken Cornelia’s message to the masses by creating an online resource library available to the world.

Creating a Resource for the 21st Century

The Cornelia Connelly Curriculum Committee is composed of teachers from the Holy Child Network of Schools, an association of 10 Catholic, independent elementary and secondary schools founded by the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus. The Committee, which was formed in 2009 by Eileen McDevitt, SHCJ, Director of the Holy Child Network of Schools, was tasked with developing ways to integrate

Cornelia Connelly Curriculum Committee Members

Special thanks and gratitude to the members of the Committee for the time, energy, and dedication they gave in creating the Cornelia Connelly Digital Library.

Eileen McDevitt, SHCJ, Director, Holy Child Network of Schools

Joanne Ainsworth, Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child

Martha Crawford, Holy Child Academy, Old Westbury

Beth Dorr, Mayfield Junior School of the Holy Child Jesus

Mary Hopkins, Connelly School of the Holy Child, Potomac

Kathleen Lynch, Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child

Mary Mansell, Mayfield Senior School of the Holy Child Jesus

Anne Pibel, Mayfield Senior School of the Holy Child Jesus (began serving in 2012)

Catherine Stuart, Rosemont School of the Holy Child

Pamela Toomey, Cornelia Connelly School of the Holy Child (began serving in 2012)

Jennifer Whitt, School of the Holy Child, Rye

Anne Wood, Holy Child Academy, Drexel Hill

Hani Zubi, Cornelia Connelly School of the Holy Child (served 2009-2012)

Special thanks also to Robin Beaver of the Rosemont School of the Holy Child who has been the technical advisor throughout the four-year process. She will continue to maintain the site and upload additional materials with Sister Eileen.

What’s in the Digital Library?

Educators can use the library as a resource for selecting age-specific classroom lessons that are built upon Cornelia’s vision of focusing on love to promote character, spirit, trust, joy, respect, and faith. The Teacher Resources section of the website contains information for children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade and provides a framework for sharing Cornelia’s teachings. Suggested activities reinforce the lessons. Teachers and students will continue to add lessons, prayer services, and more to the website.

Those seeking spiritual growth are often moved by the peace and joy exhibited by Cornelia, despite the many tragedies and disappointments that marked her life. Relevant resources in the library include letters written by Cornelia, as well as books, articles, and spiritual exercises based on the Incarnational spirituality that shaped Cornelia’s life and prayer.

Holy Child alumni will be delighted by the library’s photo section. Materials are available from more than 69 Holy Child schools that the Sisters founded or taught in—from Holy Child High School in Waukegan, IL to Holy Child High School in Portland, OR to Holy Spirit School in Sharon Hill, PA, and to the Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit, NJ. Library visitors will enjoy walking down memory lane and viewing vintage photos as well as class pictures.

Students of history can embark on an exploration of the Society’s growth and development by accessing the SHCJ History section, which contains the contents of letters written by Cornelia as well as other historical documents. The letters chronicle both significant and routine events in Cornelia’s life. Even the most routine events offer a fascinating glimpse into Cornelia’s charism.

Cornelia Connelly’s history, spirituality, and educational philosophy into the curriculum of the Network Schools. It soon became apparent that this project would have a wider focus and larger audience including providing formation for Holy Child Sisters in the Society’s African Province.

As the close-knit group of teachers worked together, they began to realize just how much appeal Cornelia’s teachings had and how ambitious a task this was going to be. With the assistance of Helena Mayer, SHCJ (M. M. Kilian), the Society’s American Province Archivist, the committee identified, researched, and organized hundreds of materials and artifacts, as well as developing lesson plans and teaching resources. Their research even took them to the Society’s Archives in Oxford, England to gather materials with the help of Helen Forshaw, SHCJ, the Archivist for the Society’s European Province, and Judith Lancaster, SHCJ.

After scouring over thousands of materials—including monographs, newspapers, pamphlets, manuscripts, photographs, correspondence, periodicals, sheet music, and more—the Committee determined that the best way to share all of its information would be via the World Wide Web—and they set out to make it happen.

The Committee partnered with Villanova University, which scanned many of the collected materials, making it possible to share them electronically. In return, Villanova asked that the materials also be available in the University’s collections. Next, the committee organized the materials into easy to find sections—a monumental task given all they had gathered—and developed a website which can be found at https://corneliaconnellylibrary.org. The Sisters of the Holy Child are immensely grateful to the members of this committee for their hard work and dedication. The Cornelia Connelly Digital Library ensures that Cornelia’s message, which the Sisters have carried on for centuries, continues to live. The Library provides all who seek to grow in their faith with the values, skills, and inspiration to be themselves, the self that God wants them to be.

To ensure that Cornelia’s message will have an impact for generations to come, additional monetary contributions are needed to maintain and add materials to the library. The Sisters invite you to enjoy the Digital Library and encourage friends and visitors to preserve the SHCJ history by making a donation. For more information, please contact the Development Office at 610.626.1400, x301 or slovascio@shcj.org.
By Tese Currie, SHCJ (M. M. Aloysius)

This year, 17 Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus (SHCJ) are celebrating their Jubilees. Jubilees mark anniversaries of 75, 70, 60, or 50 years of service as a Holy Child Sister. In this issue of Actions, we feature six of our Jubilarians. In our next issue, we will feature the 11 Sisters celebrating their 60th Jubilees!

75 Years

Lois Beaucage, SHCJ
(Mother Mary Conrad)

Sister Lois was born in Portland and educated at Holy Child Academy there. Today two pictures in her room reflect the influence of both places on her life. One is a beautiful view of snow-capped Mt. Hood, and the other is a photograph of the Portland community when more than 50 Holy Child Sisters lived at the convent on Alameda Avenue. Sister Lois loved the natural beauty of the Northwest, the warmth of her family there, and the joy of her Holy Child vocation.

Her first eight years of teaching were in the East, but for the next 52 years, she taught in the West—Portland (21 years), Pasadena (5 years), and Anaheim (26 years). She was known as a thorough, patient science teacher who often was in charge of the grounds surrounding each school. Sister Lois retired to the Convent of the Holy Child in Rye, NY in 1998, but former students often ask for her. In 2006, the Holy Child community in Rye, NY surprised Sister Lois with a gala 90th birthday celebration. Her two families converged as her sister Marguerite flew in with Lois’ nephew who provided a tenor concert. Shortly after, Sister Lois came to Holy Child Center in Rosemont, PA.

Despite the diminishments of aging, Sister Lois is always gracious in her responses—often surprising her companions with her quick wit. Her consistent presence at Mass and meals attests to a life of persevering faith and fidelity.

70 Years

Rosemary McCarthy, SHCJ
(Mother Mary Januarius)

Sister Rosemary is proud to have been born in New York and educated at St. Walburga’s Academy. When she entered the Society, she brought with her a friendly, happy spirit which has endeared her to many. Her flexibility was evident in her teaching assignments.

Although she majored in history, she was asked to teach just about every other subject. This she did gladly at St. Walburga’s Academy in New York, NY; Holy Child Academy in Portland, OR; Cornelia Connelly School in Anaheim, CA; and Our Lady of Lourdes in New York, NY.

Sister Rosemary also served as Superior of the Sisters’ Infirmary in Rye, NY for four years and was then missioned to Dalton Center where her friendly, chatty letters to benefactors were just one of the many services she joyfully offered there. Located in New York, Dalton Center supports the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus serving in Africa, Chile, and the Dominican Republic; provides a base for mission education in schools and parishes across the country; and is a hub for solicitation and distribution of funds for overseas ministries.

Since 2006, Sister Rosemary has been a contributing member of the community of Sisters living in Rye, NY, writing all the Christmas cards and corresponding with some of the longtime donors. She is still a lover of people, plants, and crossword puzzles—but, above all, deeply grateful for her religious vocation as a Sister of the Holy Child Jesus.

50 Years

Sandra Lincoln, SHCJ
(Mother Mary of Avila)

Sister Sandra first met the Holy Child Sisters when she came to the Holy Child Convent in Rosemont, PA to take the entrance tests. Reminiscing about that first experience with Holy Child Sisters, Sister Sandra says, “I loved them.” Sister Sandra came to the Society with a degree in chemistry and that has been the chief focus of her apostolate these 50 years.

For 13 years she taught at the secondary level—School of the Holy Child in Suffern, NY; Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit, NJ; and Holy Child High School in Waukegan, IL. After earning her master’s degree in chemistry, she spent two years in the Financial Aid Office at Rosemont College and then studied for her doctorate at Stony Brook University in New York.

In 1982, Sister Sandra joined the faculty at the University of Portland and this was her happy niche for 27 years. Meanwhile her academic experience was called upon to serve on the Board of Trustees of Rosemont College.

After retiring from teaching, Sister Sandra developed a SAT/ACT prep course for the students at the Cristo Rey De La Salle North Catholic High School in Portland. Sister Sandra is now a member of the Society’s American Province Leadership Team, commuting from Portland for regular meetings in the East.
Helen McDonald, SHCJ  
(Sr. Vincent DePaul)

Sister Helen is a graduate of Holy Child Academy, Sharon Hill and Rosemont College. As a history major, she was intrigued by the classes of Mother Mary Lawrence and still is somewhat of a “history buff.” After she professed her vows as a Sister of the Holy Child, she was a classroom teacher for 13 years before serving as Principal of Rosemont School of the Holy Child in Rosemont, PA for eight years. A sabbatical in Rome gave her a great love for the Eternal City.

On her return, in a complete change of ministry, Sister Helen lived in Washington, DC where she served as Legislative Assistant to Congresswoman Constance Morella from 1987–1994. Then she was called to a number of administrative responsibilities including serving on the Society Leadership Team. From 2005–2011, Sister Helen was the Leader of the Society’s American Province. Among her team’s many achievements was sponsoring a year-long celebration of Cornelia Connelly’s 200th birthday and encouraging the schools in the Holy Child Network of Schools to move into financial independence.

Looking back over these years, Sister Helen says, “I am amazed it has been 50 years! But this is no reason to retire. I am now working in Rosemont College’s Office of College Relations and enjoying seeing how it has changed since I graduated many years ago.”

Cynthia Vives, SHCJ

Sister Cynthia is unique among the Jubilarians because she spent 18 years with the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart before transferring her vows to the Society of the Holy Child Jesus in 1979.

By the time Sister Cynthia came to the Society of the Holy Child, she had taught for 13 years at both elementary and secondary levels and had earned graduate degrees in French Literature and Counseling.

After a quiet year of transition, Sister Cynthia worked for the Newark Archdiocese as Associate Director of the Family Life Apostolate. Then her administrative skills were called upon at Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit, NJ, where she served on the Board of Trustees for three years before becoming Headmistress—16 years during which she successfully led the school and made lasting friendships. In 1993, she earned her doctorate from Fordham University in administration and supervision.

Further administrative assignments took her to Rosemont, PA; St. Louis, MO; and New Orleans, LA. Today she is delighted to be in New Jersey supervising student-teachers at Caldwell College, but also serving as Coordinator for sponsored and co-sponsored ministries of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus.

Sister Cynthia lives close to Marian Woods, a retirement community that was built by five religious communities, including the SHCJ and the Franciscan Sisters of Peace. This has brought her life to a happy full circle as she has been able to reconnect with the Franciscans. “What could be better?” she asks as she prepares to celebrate her golden jubilee.

25 Years

Carmen Torres, SHCJ

Born in Puerto Rico, Sister Carmen first met the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus at St. Edward’s School in Philadelphia, PA, which she attended for eight years. After graduating from Little Flower High School, she took business courses and discerned her vocation.

As the only candidate in the Society’s American Province at the time, Sister Carmen lived at Dalton Center in New York, studied at Hunter College, and served as Eucharistic Minister at Bellevue Hospital. She moved to Washington, DC to begin her Novitiate and two years later, in 1988, she professed her first vows in the Society of the Holy Child Jesus.

For the next four years, she taught at St. Elizabeth’s in New York City and later earned a degree in religious education from Boston College. In 1996, Sister Carmen began serving as the Director of Religious Education for Hispanics in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Continuing to work with the Archdiocese, she became the Director of the Catholic Institute for Evangelization in 2001, serving the Hispanic community in the area of adult faith formation.

Sister Carmen served as Vocation Director of the Society’s American Province before being elected to the Leadership Team of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus, where she brings her rich Hispanic culture and wide educational and formation experience to the international team.
Holy Child Schools  Since 1862, the Holy Child Sisters have founded and/or taught at more than 50 parochial, diocesan, and independent schools in the U.S. While many of these schools continue to educate thousands of children every year, some have closed. All those men and women who were taught by the Holy Child Sisters are an integral and much-valued part of our Holy Child family. Here, we share alum reunions and news from those who were educated by the Holy Child Sisters.

DID YOU HAVE A CLASS REUNION?

If so, let us know so that we can feature you in Actions! Send a photo from your reunion with a caption to Michael Paolucci, Development Coordinator, at mpaolucci@shcj.org or 1341 Montgomery Avenue, Rosemont, PA 19010.

Holy Child Academy, Sharon Hill  Sharon Hill, PA

Sharon Class of 1952 | 60th Reunion
In October, members of Sharon’s Class of 1952 celebrated their 60th reunion at the Sharon All Class Luncheon at the Springfield Country Club in Springfield, PA. Pictured is (seated center) Joanne Sullivan, SHCJ (Mother Constance Mary) with former classmates.

Sharon Class of 1957 | 55th Reunion
In October, members of Sharon’s Class of 1957 gathered at the Sharon All Class Luncheon at the Springfield Country Club in Springfield, PA to celebrate their 55th reunion: (seated l to r) Ronnie Gillen DuQuesne, Pat McDonough McGuirl, Liz Hanlon Costello, Fran Tryson O’Connell, Sue Schanne Slankard, (standing l to r) Karen Burke Dunn, Peggy Dougherty Leiter, Clare Rapagnani Landaiche, Loretta France Mihalik, Sally Mercier Sullivan, Carolyn Hazell, and Maria Martinez DeSantis.

Sharon Class of 1962 | 50th Reunion
Sharon’s Class of 1962 gathered in the Main Building at New Sharon in Rosemont, PA to celebrate their 50th reunion in October.

Sharon Class of 1972 | 40th Reunion
Members of Sharon’s Class of 1972 got together at Patricia McElwee Mahoney’s house in October to celebrate their 40th reunion.
Holy Child High School, Waukegan Class of 1962
50th Reunion


St. Leonard’s Academy
Philadelphia, PA

St. Leonard’s Academy Class of 1982
30th Reunion

Members of SLA’s Class of 1982 celebrated their 30th reunion at Caffe Valentino Restaurant in Philadelphia, PA: (front row l to r) Alice Baker, Jackie Vigilante, (back row l to r) Christa Zirilli Baldino, Rita Ann Basile, Lia Fusto, Lynnette Chen, and Mary fran Manno Santucci.

Holy Child High School, Waukegan Class of 1950
Mini Reunion

Members of the Class of 1950 of Holy Child High School, Waukegan met for lunch in the summer of 2012 at the Waukegan Yacht Club. Pictured here is (l to r) Elenore Langenbach Krause, Mary Ann Tierman Grazier, Carlene Hinse Suhling, Annette Rafferty Gaunky, Mary Ryan Van Heirseele, Dorothy Biegler Whiteside, Kathleen Lucas Hayes, and Marianne Drew Jula.

Holy Child High School, Waukegan Class of 1957
55th Reunion

Nine members of the Class of 1957 from Holy Child High School, Waukegan met for their 55th reunion luncheon in October. (seated l to r) Ruth Baade Isaachsen, Betty Brooks Markese, (standing l to r) Rosemary Davis Crouthers, Bridget Boyle, Linda San Filippo, Nancy Gavigan LeMieux, Carol Thomas Kroll, Kathy LeMieux Savastio, and Loretta Aikus Hebior.

Holy Child High School, Waukegan Class of 1950 Mini Reunion

Members of the Class of 1950 of Holy Child High School, Waukegan met for lunch in the summer of 2012 at the Waukegan Yacht Club. Pictured here is (l to r) Elenore Langenbach Krause, Mary Ann Tierman Grazier, Carlene Hinse Suhling, Annette Rafferty Gaunky, Mary Ryan Van Heirseele, Dorothy Biegler Whiteside, Kathleen Lucas Hayes, and Marianne Drew Jula.

Holy Child High School, Waukegan Class of 1957
55th Reunion

Nine members of the Class of 1957 from Holy Child High School, Waukegan met for their 55th reunion luncheon in October. (seated l to r) Ruth Baade Isaachsen, Betty Brooks Markese, (standing l to r) Rosemary Davis Crouthers, Bridget Boyle, Linda San Filippo, Nancy Gavigan LeMieux, Carol Thomas Kroll, Kathy LeMieux Savastio, and Loretta Aikus Hebior.
St. Rose School  Portland, OR

St. Rose’s Class of 1967 | 45th Reunion

Classmates from St. Rose School got together in September at Amalfi’s Restaurant in Portland, OR to celebrate their 45th reunion: (kneeling l to r) Lindie Noonan, Kathy Study, (second row l to r) Mike Nelson, Jan Dorman, Steve Michaud, Hank Erbele, Colleen Callahan, Jean Lydon, (third row l to r) Jan Cahill, Dennis O’Grady, Jean Byrne, Jan Taylor, Barbara Dugan, Jane Raggett, JeriLee Weber, (back row l to r) John Yarabinec, Pat Delaney, Rick Luty, Tom Bernt, Donna Dieterich, and Tom Tuttle.

Holy Child Academy, Portland  Portland, OR

Holy Child Academy, Portland Class of 1972 40th Reunion

The Class of 1972 gathered for a weekend of events in late September at the home of Martha Campbell Ereth’s home in Portland, OR to celebrate their 40th reunion.

Mary Henry O’Connell, SHCJ  (M. M. Henry)  
September 12, 1910 - November 16, 2012

Sister Mary Henry embodied the Society motto of “Actions Not Words.” She spent more than six decades teaching at many schools including Our Lady of Lourdes, Sts. Peter & Paul, and St. Elizabeth’s School in New York for 19 years, Holy Child Academy (Drexel Hill), Sharon, and St. Edward’s School in Pennsylvania for 14 years, St. Ignatius in Illinois for nine years (where she also served as Principal for six years), and St. Mary’s Grade School in Massachusetts for four years. She was also Principal at St. Mary’s. Sister Mary Henry left quite an impact on those she taught—many students stayed in touch with her for decades after they left her classroom.

Peggy Jennings, SHCJ  (M. Josephine Mary)  
November 15, 1930 - December 21, 2012

A native of New York, Sister Peggy graduated from St. Walburga’s Academy and Ladycliff College. In 1952, she entered the Society of the Holy Child Jesus. Her first assignment was teaching first grade at St. Elizabeth’s School where she had been a student years before. This was the beginning of her teaching career that spanned almost half a century. Sister Peggy taught at Sts. Peter and Paul in New York for eight years, Holy Spirit in Pennsylvania for two years, St. Veronica’s and St. Anastasia’s in Illinois for 18 years, and Our Lady Star of the Sea School in New Jersey for 20 years.

To read more about our Sisters who have gone to God, please visit our website at www.shcj.org/american. Click on “In Memoriam” under the “Pray with Us” menu.

Giving Made Easy

You can make secure donations online. Visit our website at www.shcj.org/american and click on “Donate Now” at the top of the page.
Order Your Special Occasion Prayer Cards

The Society's prayer cards let someone know that the Sisters of the Holy Child are offering their prayers. One card offers comfort on the loss of a loved one. Another expresses love and joy to someone celebrating a special occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, or religious holiday. The Sisters of the Holy Child receive all prayer card requests and find great joy in knowing that their prayers are a source of strength for many. Those using the prayer cards have also included donations to the Society when they request their intentions. The Sisters of the Holy Child are most grateful for your generosity. Remembrance and general intention prayer cards can be requested on our website at www.shcj.org/american or by calling 610.626.1400.

Upcoming Reunions & Events

◊ Pennsylvania & Washington, DC: Masses of Appreciation
October 13, 2013

In gratitude for those who give generously of their time, talent, and treasure, we will be hosting our Annual Mass of Appreciation in the New Sharon Chapel in Rosemont, PA. This year, we will also be holding a Mass of Appreciation at Annunciation Parish in Washington, DC for all those in the Maryland and DC areas who have been connected to our Holy Child community over the years. If you are interested in attending the Mass at Annunciation Parish, please visit our website at http://offers.shcj.org/annunciation to provide your contact information. You can also contact us at 610.626.1400, x301.

◊ California: Sixth Annual Holy Child Awards Dinner
March 20, 2014

Mark your calendar now! The sixth annual Holy Child Awards Dinner will be held in Los Angeles, CA. More information will be forthcoming.

Join us in prayer

In a world that runs 24/7, it is essential to slow down, take stock, and pray, but that's often easier said than done. Let us help you stop for a minute during your busy day by sending our monthly meditations to your inbox once a month. These short videos have been a source of comfort and strength for many. Visit www.shcj.org/american and click on subscribe to our monthly meditations.