



## NEW YORK SISTERS OF CHARITY WON'T TAKE NEW MEMBERS, SIGNALING END OF CONGREGATION

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Kevin J. Jones  
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"The decision was not an easy one," said the congregation, which has 154 sisters. "We will continue to grow in love. We will continue to deepen our relationships with each other, with our associates and with our ministry partners. We will continue to deepen our relationship with our God."



The Sisters of Charity Federation of North America has 14 member congregations, including the New York body. A federation spokeswoman confirmed to CNA that there are 1,871 sisters among its member congregations.

The New York sisters said they still believe in "the future of religious life." The sisters will continue to promote vocations and refer any inquiries to Sisters of Charity federation congregations and the Religious Formation Conference, a Chicago-based national organization that supports Catholic religious life.

The congregation's statement, citing its 200-year-old history, said New York's Sisters of Charity will "continue to pass the torch of charity."

"This is not the end of our ministries. Our mission will continue beyond our sisters. Through our associates and partners in ministry, expanding what it means to live the charism of charity into the future," the congregation said.

Their history dates back to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, a native New Yorker who founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph in Emmitsburg, Maryland, in 1809. Seton sent three Sisters of Charity to New York City in 1817 to help care for orphans. The New York congregation was founded as an independent community in 1846.

In their time in New York, the Sisters of Charity have opened or started 185 schools, 28 hospitals, 23 child care institutions, and other ministries to serve those in need, according to their website.

The New York congregation currently sponsors the College of Mount St. Vincent, a Catholic liberal arts college in New York City with 1,800 undergraduate and graduate students.

It also supports the Sisters of Charity Housing Development Corporation, which provides affordable housing for senior citizens, homeless women and children, formerly homeless families, and adults with disabilities.





## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Marilyn Lynaugh Strafer, '80

The dog days of summer are almost behind us and it is now time to get busy and back into our normal routines.

One of my goals as president has been to review the foundation of our organization, which is the by-laws. I was interested in how our founding members set the association up with official rules and guidelines. The SVH School of Nursing Alumnae Associations' by-laws were originally ratified in March 1926 and understandably, have had several revisions over the last nearly 100 years. The current Board of Directors has put together an ad hoc committee to review the by-laws, which were last officially updated in 1989, under Sr. Grace Henke's guidance.

The committee has written a summary of the proposed revisions in a different article in this newsletter, which will outline the necessary updates. I plan on presenting these proposed changes at the General Membership Zoom meeting in September and will look to ratify the updated by-laws by majority vote at the annual general meeting hosted during the November luncheon. So, standby for more information...

I have some dates to announce for the coming weeks, so mark your calendars:

- Fall Board of Directors Zoom Meeting 9/13/23 @ 7:00pm
- Fall General Membership Meeting on 9/20/23 @ 7:00pm via Zoom Meeting ID 443 207 0682 Passcode 544629. Speaker to be announced.
- Annual Communion Mass at St Francis Xavier RC Church 11/11/23 @ 10:30am
- 93rd Annual Luncheon at The Manhattan Penthouse. NYC 11/11/23 @ 12:00pm

We are gearing up for the always enjoyable 93rd Annual Luncheon. The flyer and response card are enclosed in this mailing and will be limited to the first 200 responses. As always, first preference goes to the golden and silver anniversary class. If we do not reach the minimum number of attendees, we will then consider non-alumni guests. So, if you have a request to include a non-alumni guest, please include your request and the name of your guest on the response card. We will contact you if we can accommodate your guest. **DO NOT** send in payment until you have been contacted that your guest can be seated.

We once again are happy to announce that a live stream of the Mass will be featured on the SVH YouTube channel for those who are not able to attend St Francis Xavier Church on November 11th. To view live or at a future time go to the YouTube app on your smart phone, tablet, computer or smart TV and tune to: <https://youtube.com/live/Q7MNjbWWLfo>

The Class of 1973 will celebrate their golden anniversary and have been diligently planning their reunion. If you have questions or would like to reach out you can contact Sue McDerby at [hamptonbabe26@yahoo.com](mailto:hamptonbabe26@yahoo.com) or Mary Carmody at [mcarmody3@mac.com](mailto:mcarmody3@mac.com) for the latest update.

The Class of 1998 will host their 25th anniversary and sadly to date, no one has come forward to make inquiries in organizing their silver milestone. If you know anyone who graduated in '98, please let them know I can help them get some of their classmates together, but time is running out. I can be reached at [marilynstrafer@gmail.com](mailto:marilynstrafer@gmail.com)

And finally, I salute all our former graduates and current members of the SVH Alumnae Association and encourage you to keep our legacy alive by staying connected and engaged. Your Board is receptive to your suggestions for activities and promoting connections. Please visit our FaceBook page @ St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing NYC where I post frequent updates and event schedules. Also, our website is [www.stvincentsschoolofnursingalums.org](http://www.stvincentsschoolofnursingalums.org). Or send an email to [svhalum@gmail.com](mailto:svhalum@gmail.com) with your thoughts or suggestions.

## ATTENTION ALUMNI DUES

Once again we need to remind everyone to pay their ALUMNI DUES. As of this newsletter there are still over 200 members in arrears. If you have a issue just let Pat Costello know.

Thank you to everyone who continue to pay their dues and to those of you who generously over pay.

## CAPES

The Alumni Association is looking for Capes. Anyone wanting to move their cape along to another member who is looking for one please get in touch with Pat Costello at [pcostellosvh@gmail.com](mailto:pcostellosvh@gmail.com)

## CAPS

Our caps can be purchased from KAY's CAPS. They are \$24.50.

Go to [info@kayscap.com](mailto:info@kayscap.com) or phone 516 791-8500.

*Patience, Fortitude, Perseverance*



