

60 years

Mary K. Cummings, SP

(Sister Katrina)

Sister Mary K. Cummings lives just a short stroll from her birthplace at Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane. Her family moved to Spokane from Northport, Wash., near the Canadian border, when she was 10. She graduated from Marycliff High School and discovered that she had a vocation while attending Holy Names College. She taught fifth through eighth grades for eight years, in Missoula, Mont., Wallace and DeSmet, Idaho, and Great Falls, Mont., and later taught high school. Other ministries have been in finance at the College of Great Falls, as treasurer of the former St. Ignatius Province, in parish ministry in Hayward, Calif., and nine years as director of pastoral care and of volunteers at a small rural hospital in Polson, Mont., while also serving as a part-time provincial council member. After retiring 10 years ago in Spokane, she assisted the elderly at Mount St. Joseph and Emilie Court. Today she is a part-time volunteer in the religious community's library in Spokane. 🌀



Anna Marie Koval, SP

(Sister Mary Ursula)

Sister Anna Marie Koval is a native of Staples, Minn. She and her family moved to Missoula, Mont., where she was taught by Sisters of Providence at St. Francis Xavier, Sacred Heart Academy, St. Patrick School of Nursing and also at the College of Great Falls (MT). She entered the novitiate in 1950 and served as a nurse in hospitals in Idaho, Montana and Washington, including twenty years as a nurse and in pastoral care at St. Patrick Hospital, Missoula. After a renewal program for religious sisters in 1984, she enrolled in training for pastoral education and was certified as a chaplain. She currently works part time as chaplain at St. Joseph Care Center, Spokane, across the street from her home at Mount St. Joseph/Emilie Court. 🌀



Scholastica Lee, SP

(Sister Scholastica Mary)

Sister Scholastica Lee was born in Eden, County Roscommon, Ireland, in 1921 and came to the United States with her brother in the early 1940s in search of work. Her first job was as assistant to Sister Tekawitha in the pharmacy at Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane. She entered the religious community at the age of 29. Her first ministry was teaching third grade at St. Patrick School in Walla Walla, Wash. She also taught at Providence Academy and at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Vancouver, Wash.; St. Catherine School, Seattle; Holy Rosary School, Moxee, Wash.; St. Joseph grade school, Yakima, Wash.; and Immaculate Conception School, Fairbanks, Alaska. In 1972 she switched to parish work, serving at St. Monica Parish Center in Coos Bay, Ore., Holy Names Parish in Coquille, Ore., and St. Michael Parish in Snohomish, Wash. Later she returned to St. Joseph Grade School in Yakima to coordinate religious education and teach. One of her favorite ministries was her 17 years as hospital chaplain at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center in Portland, Ore. She retired to St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, in 2000. 🌀



then as part of the administrative team at Mount St. Vincent. In 1995 she was called to serve as a provincial councilor for Sacred Heart Province's last leadership team and in the fall of 1999 she was appointed provincial councilor/treasurer for the first leadership team of Mother Joseph Province. She has served on the board of Providence Health System, and of Providence Senior and Community Services, and as chair of three Department of Housing and Urban Development boards. She also was the first records manager for Mount St. Vincent. She currently is secretary to the superior of St. Joseph Residence and manager of Caritas Court in West Seattle.

Maria Lourdes Cleto, SP

(Given name: Soledad)

Born in Manila, Philippines, Sister Maria Lourdes Cleto entered the novitiate of the Sisters of Providence in 1960 in Seattle and made first profession in 1963. A graduate of the College of Great Falls (MT), she spent 15 years as a parochial school teacher in DeSmet, Idaho, Great Falls and Missoula, Mont., and Spokane and Walla Walla, Wash. She has worked with adults on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, with black residents of Chicago and with Mexican migrant children in Walla Walla. After completing the chaplaincy program at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, she was a pastoral assistant at St. Edward Parish in Seattle for a total of 24 years, including work with the parish's Filipino community. Next she worked with the Seattle Diaconate Formation Program for three years before moving into her current role as a member of the Vocation Team for the Sisters of Providence. 🌀



50 years

Lynn Chappell, SP

(Sister Inez Elizabeth)

Born in White Center, Wash., Sister Lynn Chappell met the Sisters of Providence at Holy Family School. She entered the religious community as a postulant at Mount St. Vincent in Seattle and attended classes at Providence Heights in Issaquah, Wash. After graduation from Seattle University in 1965, she taught fifth grade at Sacred Heart School in Tacoma, Wash. Other teaching assignments were at Holy Family School in White Center, St. Joseph School in Yakima, Wash., and Villa Academy and Assumption Schools in Seattle. She was local coordinator/administrator at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle, and took studies to become licensed as a nursing home administrator in Washington State. Next she served as provincial secretary for the former Sacred Heart Province,



Patricia Eley, SP

Sister Patricia Eley's parents met as teenagers working at the former Providence Hospital in Seattle and married at Immaculate Conception Church. Patricia, their third of nine children, was born at Providence Hospital and knew from the first grade that she wanted to be a Sister of Providence. She entered the religious community after graduation from Providence Academy in Vancouver, Wash., and made first vows in 1958. Initially assigned to study nursing, she was sent



2011 Jubilee Celebration

50 years...

Patricia Eley, SP...

to teach at St. Finbar School in Burbank, Calif., beginning a 31-year career teaching every grade from third through eighth. She left the community for personal reasons in 1971, continuing to teach, and then returned three years later. She went to the novitiate again and professed first vows for the second time in 1975 and final vows three years later. Other teaching assignments were at Holy Rosary School, Moxee, Wash.; Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Vancouver, Wash.; Our Lady of the Holy Rosary School, Sun Valley, Calif.; and Holy Family School, St. Paul School, and St. Bernadette School, Seattle. She also served as co-principal of St. Paul School in 1986. In between teaching assignments, she worked in the finance departments of the health system's corporate offices and of the religious community. Today she is retired and living in Seattle. 🌀

Joyce Green, SP (Sister Joyce Marie)

Sister Joyce Green was born with impaired vision and today is blind, but it is an experience that has enriched rather than defined her. She developed a phenomenal memory for taking in information that got her through high school in her small town in Missouri, and used a tape recorder and paid readers to earn a college degree at St. Louis University as a scholarship student. After graduation, she worked for eight years as a correspondence secretary at a paper company, became a Catholic as an adult, and entered the Sisters of Providence in Seattle. She professed first vows in 1963 and worked for two years as a medical records transcriptionist at St. Joseph Hospital in Burbank, Calif., followed by four years at St. Vincent's Hospital in Portland, Ore. She served in social work at Providence Portland Medical Center (PPMC) from 1971 to 1990, with time out to earn a master's



degree in social work at St. Louis University. She developed the mission integration program at PPMC, established the recognition program for employees who model the mission, and began a medication assistance program for the needy. In addition, she has served on a number of advocacy boards for the blind, including the Oregon State Commission for the Blind, on the board and as treasurer of the state affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind, and on the board of Outreach Ministries in Portland. 🌀

Myrta Iturriaga, SP (Sister Juana Rosa de Jesus)

Born in Temuco, Chile, Sister Myrta Iturriaga was taught by Sisters of Providence at Sacred Heart School and entered the religious community in 1961, a year after graduation. She taught math, arts and religion in elementary school and high school in Chile, and was principal of the Professional School in Ovalle, where she helped with the Christian formation of the students' families. She came to the former St. Ignatius Province, headquartered in Spokane, Wash., in August 1988, when she was called to be a missionary to the Hispanic community in Connell, Wash. Her transfer to the province was formally approved in 1992. She became a U.S. citizen in 2002 in Spokane. For more than 20 years, Sister Myrta worked for the Diocese of Spokane, as director of Hispanic ministry, as a translator, and also in prison and detention ministry. This year, when she ended her ministry with the diocese, she received the Volunteer of the Year award from the Airway Heights Correctional Center. 🌀



Maria Teresa Lopez, SP (Sister Maria Teresa de Jesus)

Born in San Miguel, Manila, Sister Maria Teresa Lopez completed high school in 1940, and then studied secretarial work at the University of Santo Tomas. During the Japanese occupation she worked at the Welfareville Institute for delinquent boys and girls, as well as at the Home for the Aged and

the Infirm and the orphan she worked for nine years as secretary to the director of the Military Welfare Service Department of the Philippine National Red Cross while taking graduate studies in social service work at the Centro Escolar University and doing field work at the Settlement House, an institution for abandoned children. Later, she was secretary to the general manager of Warner-Chilcott Laboratories Inc. in Manila. She made and paid for her own arrangements to come to the United States to enter the novitiate of the Sisters of Providence in 1960, making first vows in 1963. She was assigned to Columbus Hospital in Great Falls, Mont., as a medical social worker and volunteered at Opportunities Inc., and with Women in Community Service. For six years she was director of the Social Services Department at Columbus Hospital, helping to launch its Medical Social Service Program. She did post graduate work in psychotherapy at Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Wash., and was director of social services at St. John Hospital, Longview, Wash. She returned to the Philippines in 1979 to work with Rural Missionaries of the Philippines in Manila, and then went to work in the East Coast Migrant Head Start Program in Florida and South Carolina. She studied clinical pastoral education at Deaconess Hospital, Spokane, volunteered with refugee resettlement efforts, spent time in the Sisters of Providence Philippine sector (now a vice province) and returned to Mount St. Joseph, Spokane, when she retired in 2003. 🌀



Carla Montante, SP (Sister Carla Marie)

Sister Carla Montante was born in St. Peter Hospital in Olympia, Wash., and was taught by Sisters of Providence at St. Michael grade school. She entered the religious community in 1959, but left in the early months of novitiate due to ill health, returning in 1961. She holds a bachelor's degree from Seattle University and a master's degree from the University of Portland, both in education. Her first ministry was teaching the middle grades for



six years at St. Joseph School in Vancouver, Wash. She also taught at St. Michael School in Olympia and at St. Catherine School in Seattle. In 1974, she helped the Seattle Archdiocese support the laity through the Channel program by assisting recent college and university graduates as they put their faith into action as teachers or ministers. She transitioned into vocation and formation ministry, serving from 1976 to 1981 at a formation/vocation house in Holy Angels Province in Calgary, Alberta. Next, she spent two years there as a retreat and spiritual director at the multi-faith Religious Life Center of the Faithful Companions of Jesus. Returning to the United States in 1983, she became director of religious education at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish in Spanaway, Wash. She later worked at Loyola Retreat House in Portland, providing individual and group spiritual direction and retreats. Her leadership positions with the congregation have included serving on the Provincial Council of Sacred Heart Province and as a director of the Sisters of Providence Health Care Corporation. In 1997 she returned to the Providence Renewal Centre in Edmonton, and then became provincial superior for the sisters of Western Canada for six years. Today she resides in Olympia. 🌸

Mary Kaye Nealen, SP
(Sister Leonore Mary)

For 20 ½ years, Sister Mary Kaye Nealen has served in ministry on the campus of the University of Great Falls (MT). She currently is director of mission integration and associate professor of theology and ministry. She also has served as provost and vice president of academic affairs. She holds degrees from Seattle University and Aquinas Institute of Theology, as well as a doctorate in systematic theology from the Catholic University of America. Born in Spokane, she entered the novitiate in Seattle in 1960 and attended college at Providence Heights in Issaquah, Wash. She professed first vows in 1963. After nine years of teaching junior high and high school, she asked to study theology and was permitted to carry out research in South America, primarily in Chile. Subsequent ministries included parish ministry in three rural parishes near Great Falls, Mont., and spiritual formation and field supervision with permanent deacon applicants and their wives in the Diocese of Great Falls/Billings (MT). She also served on the General Council in Montreal, Quebec. 🌸



Marie-Claire Soucy, SP
(Given name: Florence Soucy)

Sister Marie-Claire Soucy is a nurse who has practiced her profession for more than 40 years in a number of countries in South America and Africa, in addition to Haiti, where she currently serves in a rural clinic in the mountains north of Port au Prince. Born in Lowell, Mass., she attended schools operated by the Grey Nuns of Ottawa and took nursing studies at Sacred Heart Hospital in Montreal, Canada. She made temporary vows as an Oblate of Mary Immaculate in Quebec City before being granted a transfer to the Sisters of Providence motherhouse in Montreal. She entered the Providence community in 1961 and made first vows in 1963. When Pope John XXIII called for missionaries to go to Latin America, Sister Marie-Claire was ready. After studying Spanish, she went to Argentina and worked as a nurse in a regional hospital. Next, she traveled in 1975 to Cameroon, Africa, where she served as nursing director in a clinic in the bush where there was no doctor. In 1978 she went to Haiti, where she has spent most of the years since then, with intermittent stays in Seattle in Mother Joseph Province, which she joined in 1994. 🌸



Patricia Vartanian, SP
(Sister John Marie)

Born in Sacred Heart Hospital in Hanford, Calif., Sister Patricia Vartanian moved with her family to Burbank, where she was taught by the Sisters of Providence at St. Finbar grade school and Providence High School. She entered the religious community as a postulant in 1960, and took classes at Providence Heights in Issaquah, Wash. She professed first vows in 1963 and, after two more years of study in the juniorate, was missioned to teach seventh grade at St. Joseph grade school in Vancouver, Wash. She taught for six years, including one year in Fairbanks, Alaska. A bachelor's degree from the University of Washington and master's degrees in business administration and in public health from the University of California at Berkeley prepared her



to go into health care and religious community finance. The health care finance ministry included eight years in Providence Hospital, Oakland, Calif., and two years in Anchorage, Alaska. She served as provincial treasurer of the former Sacred Heart Province, then as provincial treasurer of Holy Angels Province, Edmonton, Alberta. Returning to Seattle to join the new Mother Joseph Province, she began a third phase of ministry in alternative/complementary health care, with a massage license and a certificate in reflexology. 🌸

25 years

Renate Hayum, SP
(1930-2011)

Sister Renate Hayum, a Jewish convert to Catholicism, entered the Sisters of Providence at the age of 52. An only child born in Germany in the 1930s, she fled with her parents to New York in 1939. She was sent to live with relatives in Denver, where she learned English, and was reunited with her parents in Seattle with the help of a Jewish refugee organization. She graduated from Franklin High School, enrolled at Reed College in Portland, Ore., and then transferred to the University of Washington. Moving to San Francisco after graduation, she converted to Catholicism in 1953. She moved to New York and for 11 years was editorial assistant for the director of the Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University. She returned to Seattle in 1966 and earned a master's degree in library science at the University of Washington. For 19 years she was a reference librarian and department head at Seattle Public Library.

Sister Renate also became involved in parish works at St. Patrick's Church. Inquiries about joining a religious community led her to the Sisters of Providence. She entered the novitiate in 1986 and made first profession in 1988. Her ministries in the community included being one of five founding sisters in the Philippines and serving for 17 years as school librarian at Providence High School in Burbank, Calif. She died in Seattle on January 27, 2011, three days before her 81st birthday. 🌸



Sisters receive honors from the State of Montana

Back in 1888, a year before Montana became a state, the Sisters of Providence incorporated there. On March 17, Montana Secretary of State Linda McCulloch presented the Sisters of Providence with a Centennial Award for being an active corporation for more than 100 years. The presentation was made at St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center in Missoula, Mont.

Provincial Councilor Jo Ann Showalter traveled to Missoula to accept the honor on behalf of all of the Sisters of Providence. She was accompanied from Spokane by Sisters Ida Mae Marceau, Lily May Emert and Anna Marie Koval.

Sister Ida Mae was born in Missoula and worked after school at St. Patrick Hospital, where the seeds of her vocation were planted. As a young woman, Sister Lily May worked in the pharmacy at St. Patrick when the pharmacist became ill and needed assistance. She continued to work there during the summers while she pursued pharmacy training. Sister Anna Marie, who is celebrating her 60th year as a Sister of Providence this year, received



Montana Secretary of State Linda McCulloch (right) presented the Sisters of Providence with the Centennial Award for being an active Montana corporation for more than 100 years. Admiring the honor are (from left) Srs. Anna Marie Koval, Lily May Emert, Ida Mae Marceau and Provincial Councilor Jo Ann Showalter.

nurses' training at St. Patrick School of Nursing, and later served as a nurse and in pastoral care there for 20 years.

Others attending the presentation included John Koster, CEO of Providence Health & Services, and Providence Ministries sponsors Barb Savage and Sisters Anita Butler and Barbara Schamber. ●

ANNUAL APPEAL

We always are delighted

when we receive cards, notes and comments from individuals expressing gratitude to the Sisters of Providence for their ministries through the years. Some have accompanied the kind words of appreciation with contributions to help us continue our ministries and the mission of Providence. We cannot say thank you enough for your support. Much of what the Sisters of Providence have been able to accomplish through the years would have been impossible without it.

Today, we continue to carry on the works begun in 1843 by our foundress Blessed Emilie Gamelin in Montreal, and extended to the West by Mother Joseph and four sister companions in 1856. We care for all of our most vulnerable neighbors, whether they are young or old, sick, hungry, homeless, defenseless and/or deprived of opportunities for a better life. We do this work because the charity of Christ impels us to do it. From your correspondence and your comments, we know that you join us in this work for a similar reason.

Together, we reach out to women and children in Seattle and Spokane who need a temporary home and a helping hand to get their lives on track. We come together to offer scholarships that allow young women and men in El Salvador to get an education that opens new possibilities for them and their families. We pool our resources in the Emilie Gamelin Mission Fund to support the efforts of countless organizations throughout Mother Joseph Province, which includes Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Montana, Idaho, California and El Salvador.

Together,

we do so much, and yet there is so much that needs to be done. That is why **we invite you to renew your commitment** to the success of our partnership by **making a donation** today to the Sisters of Providence.

You may designate your gift for the need that touches your heart most. You may select women and children in need, El Salvador scholarships, the Sisters' Retirement Fund, education and support of new sisters, or the "area of greatest need."

Make your gift in honor of or in memory of a loved one, a friend, a mentor or a Sister of Providence who has touched your life.

Helping to continue **the mission of Providence** is a great way to say thank you. ●