



The logo, with ND cross at the center, symbolizes the religious congregation established on the foundation of the cross. “These are the daughters that I will give you in an institute marked by my cross”--words heard in a vision in 1804 by St. Julie Billiart, foundress of the Sisters of Notre Dame. ND signifies “Notre Dame,” French for Our Lady, patroness of SNDs. The ever-widening lines, spiraling out from the cross in a global movement, depict the ND Mission of “making known God’s goodness,” from Namur, Belgium to five continents where SNDs bring the good news of the Gospel today.

SNDs EDUCATE FOR LIFE: 160 YEARS IN BOSTON ARCHDIOCESE

By Sister Anne Stevenson, S.N.D. de N.

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (SNDs) are still educating for life! Ministering in the Archdiocese for 160 years, SNDs are living and serving in Greater Boston and in the cities/towns in its environs. The strong, continuing presence of the SNDs in ministry extends a unique history and relationship of the Sisters with the Church in the Archdiocese of Boston-- reaching from north to south, spreading out from the center of Boston to western suburbs. Today, there are 260 SNDs in 89 communities in the Archdiocese of Boston, and another 99 Sisters in the Dioceses of Worcester and Springfield. We are still here!



Sister Joanne Sullivan, Principal of St. Patrick School and Education Center in Lowell, enjoys the children at recess time in the schoolyard.

PHOTO: Sr. Jon Julie Sullivan, S.N.D. de N.

SNDs from many states, as far away as Ohio and California, are serving today in the Archdiocese. They demonstrate “a variety of gifts, with the same spirit,” serving the people, the Church and the religious congregation locally and in a world-wide Notre Dame mission. SND administrators, teachers, librarians, and support staff, are “educating for life” students from early childhood through teenage years, and continuing with college, university and adults groups. SNDs minister also in parishes, retreat centers and houses of prayer, hospitals, health care and rehabilitation centers, environmental services, social agencies for people

living in poverty, prisons, and more. They form a team, more far-reaching than all Boston sports teams; they extend their influence and apostolic impact beyond the Fenway, North Station and the far-away suburbs.

Wherever they minister in “teaching them what they need to know for life,” Sisters of Notre Dame reach out to the needs of the people, in changing times, in the Church and the world. Although impossible to cite all locations, it is important to note that the Sisters of Notre Dame sponsor and staff the following ministries within the Archdiocese:

- Academy of Notre Dame, Tyngsboro
- Congregational Mission Office, Cuvilly Arts and Earth Center, National Vocation Office, Notre Dame Spirituality Center, Province Office and St. Julie Billiart Residential Care Center, Ipswich
- Emmanuel College, Boston
- Julie’s Family Learning Program and Notre Dame Education Center, South Boston
- Notre Dame Academy, Hingham
- Notre Dame Children’s Class, Wenham
- Notre Dame Education Center and Notre Dame High School (Cristo Rey School), Lawrence
- Notre Dame Montessori School and Project Care and Concern, Dorchester
- Notre Dame Virtual School www.ndvs.org
- Province Office, Everett
- St. Patrick School and Education Center, Lowell

In 1849, Bishop J. B. Fitzpatrick of Boston requested Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur for his diocese. The first three Sisters arrived in Boston from Cincinnati, in November 1849. Fr. John McElroy, S.J. invited them to staff St. Mary School in the North End of Boston, the first regularly organized Catholic school in the city of Boston. St. Mary’s became a model for many more schools directed by the SNDs in New England. In twelve years, 7 SND communities staffed schools in all parts of Boston and stretched into the Merrimack Valley to Lowell and Lawrence. The Congregation grew phenomenally as young women were attracted by dynamic Sisters passionately in love with God, the Church and their saintly foundress, St. Julie Billiart.

On November 21, Sisters Mary St. Kisai Corripio and Jennifer Pierce, in a joyful Eucharistic liturgy in Our Lady Queen Chapel in Ipswich, offered themselves through the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience to God, to service in the Church and the ND Congregation. Sisters Mary and Jennifer professed perpetual vows as Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in the presence of many



Sisters Mary Corripio and Jennifer Pierce rejoice in their profession of perpetual vows on November 21, 2009 in Our Lady Queen Chapel in Ipswich.

PHOTO: Sr. Angele Lewis, S.N.D. de N.

SNDs, their families, friends and co-workers in ministry. Sr. Mary serves the Archdiocese of Boston in the Office of Cultural Diversity. Sr. Jennifer teaches at St. Patrick School and Education Center in Lowell.

Today, SNDs make known God's goodness in 29 states in the US and on five continents. Since February 2009, two local Sisters are discovering new ways to bring the ND Mission to Haiti by helping people in the poorest country in this hemisphere.

The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur recognize gratefully God's enduring love and faithfulness to our religious congregation. We take this opportunity to thank the families of our members (Sisters living and deceased), the priests, brothers and other women religious collaborating with us in the Church's Mission, our Associates, co-workers, students, alumni/alumnae, friends and all individuals supporting us with prayer, service and resources through the years. We ask for your continuing encouragement and support of our Mission as we "make known God's goodness and love of the poor through a Gospel way of life, community and prayer." We repeat with you the words of St. Julie: "Oh! How good is the good God!-- Ah! Qu'il est bon le bon Dieu!"

Learn more the SNDs today:

- visit our WEBSITE at www.sndden.org or www.notredameonline.org
- request our congregational magazine "Good Works," by contacting our Congregational Mission Office at 30 Jeffreys Neck Road, Ipswich, MA 01938 978-356-2159 (ext. 14).

Sr. Anne Stevenson, S.N.D. de N., Ph. D. (anne.stevenson@sndden.org or 978-356-2159, ext. 14) is Director of Communications for the Congregation of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. She is responsible for communications in the religious congregation internationally. She serves at the Mission Office in Ipswich, MA and networks with the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur on five continents: Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and North America, including 29 US States and Haiti.