



SSS Grapevine

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Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament for the
Eymardian Family

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Center for Eucharistic Evangelizing

Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (SSS) – Province of Saint Ann

5384 Wilson Mills Road

Highland Heights, Ohio + USA + 44143-3092

(440) 442-6311 – Extensions 274 & 278

cee@blessedsacrament.com

News from the CEE



Today, Very Reverend John Thomas Lane SSS, Provincial Superior of the Province of Saint Ann for the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (SSS), announced a historic decision with the USA Provincial Council: the appointment of two women to serve as the co-directors of the Center for Eucharistic Evangelizing, a mission of the SSS. **Mary Muehle and Mona Grigsby-Suarez.** This is a first to have two people sharing the office as co-directors and, of course, to have women in leadership in our Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. Years ago, we made headlines by appointing the first

lay leader, associate, and commuter worker, Jim Brown of Cincinnati, Ohio, before the era of working from home. Jim retired in 2020, and we are still so grateful for his years of service and miss him and his work in the office.

We are grateful for the candidates who applied for the position, the nine-month discernment process with our Associates across the country, board leaders in respective communities, and the two search committees that conducted this process. Mary and Mona will begin immediately.

Both are no strangers to our community:

- **Mary Muehle** (*in the photo on the left*) has been an associate since 2012 and a parishioner at Saint Paschal Baylon, Highland Heights, Ohio; after the retirement of Jim Brown in 2020 and during the pandemic, she was inspired to create our Zoom community, gathering the Associate leaders across the nation to keep connected and have formation and other programming online. For the last ten years, she was a hospice chaplain and pastoral associate at a parish in Euclid, Ohio, for thirty-three years. She has also taught theology at the high school level for three years. She has a Master of Arts: Theology and Religious Education from the Aquinas Institute of Religious Studies, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and a Bachelor of Arts in History and Education from John Carroll University, University Heights, Ohio.
- **Mona Grigsby-Suarez** (*in the photo on the right*) has been a member of three Blessed Sacrament Community parishes - Houston, Albuquerque, and now in Highland Heights, Ohio, at Saint Paschal Baylon. She has been an associate since 2009. Having recently moved to Ohio, she is a retired educator, working in Houston and Albuquerque in this field. She has been a “committee parishioner” in all three parishes, serving in various ministerial capacities, especially liturgy and social justice. She is bilingual. Mona obtained her Master of Arts in Special Education at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico. She received a Master of Arts in Bilingual Education from the University of Houston, a Master of Arts Degree in Human Resource Development from the University of Texas, Austin, a Master of Arts Degree in Latin American Studies from the University of Florida, Gainesville and Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, University of Florida, Gainesville. She has been a catechist in parishes across the country and led LITE programs, Taizé Eucharistic Holy hours, and written prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament literature.

We welcome Mary and Mona to our Provincial Administration Staff as they take each aspect of the job description and share responsibilities in this role. Together, they will support this full-time position in Congregation leadership. They look

forward to working with our associates across the United States and collaborating with the Blessed Sacrament Community in the USA and across the English and Spanish-speaking globe. Thank you, Mona and Mary, for hearing this call to Eucharistic service with us!

Here is the job description:

Director for Center of Eucharistic Evangelizing

The Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (Province of Saint Ann - USA) Director for the Center for Eucharistic Evangelizing (CEE) promotes the mission of deepening an understanding and appreciation of the mystery of the Eucharist from our *Rule of Life* and the *Rule of Life for Associates* (Aggregation of the Blessed Sacrament). This is a full-time position. In hiring two people for this position, the ministry and responsibilities are divided between the two co-directors with the provincial superior.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Communication:

1. Facilitate communication between the Religious Community (SSS) and the Associates by sharing information such as online gatherings, newsletters, and the CEE website with specific information regarding the Associates.
2. Contributes articles to *Bread, Broken & Shared*, the *Grapevine*, and *In Our Prayers* to share information about the CEE and Associates.
3. Shares in Provincial Staff meetings and regularly communicates with others on the staff.
4. Maintains up-to-date contact information of Associates.
5. Works with the Associates' Council and local Associate Boards to facilitate ongoing communication.
6. Meets often with the Provincial Superior for planning and development.

Recruitment, Formation, and Support of Associates:

1. Provides a welcoming response to inquiries on the CEE Website.
2. Develops a means of providing a formation process for individuals located beyond existing Associate groups (i.e., Zoom community and formation).
3. Works with Associate Leaders across the USA and the Congregation to develop and distribute ongoing formation and materials such as study guides, videos, and retreats to deepen the understanding of Saint Peter Julian Eymard, eucharistic spirituality, and evangelization.

4. Develops strong Associate Leadership in individual groups as well as across the Province.
5. Provides additional support to Associate groups outside a Blessed Sacrament Community Parish.
6. Identifies with Associates possible candidates for the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament and Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, supporting vocational discernment and recruitment.
7. Identifies youth in our parishes to encourage their Eucharistic vocation and visits with our parish youth ministry teams.
8. Visits the Associates in their various communities throughout the United States.
9. Promotes prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in our parishes, especially in the setting of exposition.

Eucharistic Evangelizing:

1. Supports the Congregation's mission of Eucharistic evangelizing by working closely with the Life in the Eucharist (LITE) program (*including our youth*) through developing and supporting teams to offer LITE experience in SSS parishes and beyond.
2. Develops and maintains materials used in the LITE program.
3. Promotes and provides programs and resources that foster knowledge and love for the Eucharist: Prayer in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament ("Adoration"), Holy Hours, etc., both in person, on the Congregation's website and through the requests that come from other parishes across the nation.
4. Organizes Province-wide events such as Convocations, Congresses, and retreats.
5. Promotes the mission of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament with our parish communities and their staffs to form and support their role as members in the mission of Eucharistic evangelizing.

The Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament - Province of Saint Ann (USA) has the right to evaluate its personnel according to the job description at any time. The Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament is an equal-opportunity employer and does not discriminate against any of its employees or applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, age, or any other protected factor. This job description explains the general responsibilities and is not a complete list of all duties performed. Duties to be performed will vary from time to time. This document is subject to change, and procedures may be modified at any given time in dialog with all parties (Provincial and Directors)