

# St. Mary's Gazette



## Our Mission

To continue the healing ministry of Jesus by providing compassionate care that respects the dignity of each person we serve.

## Our Vision

Our vision is to lead the community in offering seniors personalized services that are life-enriching and wellness focused.

## Core Values

Respect for Human Dignity  
Compassion  
Transformation  
Solidarity with People in Need  
Justice and Peace

## President & CEO

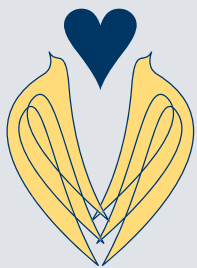
Luke Schubert

## Director of Marketing

Megan Bruckschen

## Marketing Specialist

Kim Christoffel, *Editor*



Felician Village

Sponsored by the Felician Sisters

## Second Annual Craft and Vendor Fair

The Second Annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair on November 9th was a success. With 32 vendors, holiday food and beverages, live Christmas music, face painting, an appearance from Santa and over 500 guests in attendance, all of this made for a great day!



## Deo Gratias Bags

Residents from The Court along with the Felician Sisters and Felician Associates packaged Deo Gratias Bags for the Manitowoc Warming Shelter. These bags contain socks, chapstick, hand warmers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, band-aids, lotion, and mints. "Deo Gratias" is a saying of St. Felix of Cantalice, for whom the Felician Sisters are named. It means, "Thanks be to God!"



# Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*We hope this season fulfills  
you with happiness, faith, & good health.*

December 2024

The resident newsletter of St. Mary's Home



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# President's Column

"Jesus is the reason for the season." This popular saying is heard often during December as the hustle and bustle of the holiday season can become overwhelming. I hope that you can take some time to reflect and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas – the birth of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. I would like to take the time to express thanks for so many accomplishments over the past year.



- Being named Best of the Lakeshore for the 15th year in a row!
- Organizing and hosting The Mrs. Roper's Romp, our first annual fundraiser that raised over \$45k for a new pub and patio space at The Gardens.
- Receiving the highest designation from LeadingAge Wisconsin as a Dementia Specific Certified Facility.
- Partnering with Dementia Care Solutions to offer multiple community and staff education opportunities.
- Arranging multiple donations drives to support non-profit community organizations, upholding our core value of solidarity with those in need.
- Named a "Top Place to Work in Senior Living" by WeCare Connect attributed to a positive staff survey.
- Surpassing financial budget goals for the first quarter of fiscal year 2025.
- Designated as an Affiliate of the Accountable Care Organizations (ACO) for Froedtert/Holy Family Memorial, Aurora, and Bellin Hospital Systems.
- Executed a United Health Care in-network contract to begin on January 1, 2025.

We have a lot to be thankful for this Christmas Season. I want to thank you, your families, and our staff, for the hard work and dedication given to meet these ministry goals. Without you, we would not be able to provide quality care and experiences to fulfill our mission of continuing the healing ministry of Jesus.

I wish you the peace and joy that come from the birth of our Savior. May His love fill your heart with hope and may his light guide your path in the coming year.

Merry Christmas and wishes to a Happy & Healthy 2025!

*Luke J. Schubert*

Luke Schubert, *President/CEO*

## Felician Sisters Celebrate 150 Years



In 1874, Mother Mary Angela Truskowska sent five Felician Sisters across the Atlantic to North America.

These sisters left Cracow on October 24, 1874. On November 21, the feast of the Presentation of Our Lady, they entered their new home in Polonia, where the pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Fr. Joseph Dabrowski had requested their help educating the

children of Polish immigrants.

Their hard work, joyfulness and charism had a profound effect on people, and as women joined them, Felician Sisters' ministries continued to grow across the U.S. and Canada, then in Haiti.

The Felician Sisters are started their celebrations in Polonia with a Mass and a luncheon on November 21, 2024. Please pray for the Sisters and all the Felician Ministries.



## Mission Message



Advent is a time of waiting and preparation. The word means "coming" or "arrival." We are

preparing for the celebration of the birth of Christ, for the arrival of that precious infant. St. Francis held this holiday as especially meaningful, since God became one of us, living in poverty. St. Clare, as a follower of St. Francis, also found Christmas to be the most special time of year. In a letter to Agnes of Prague, she wrote, "Cling to his most sweet mother who carried a son whom the heavens could not contain; and yet she carried Him in the little enclosure of her holy womb and held Him on her virginal lap." Imagine her disappointment when she was ill one Christmas and unable to attend the Christmas Eve Mass with her Sisters. She prayed that even though she could not attend, the Lord would allow her to take part in the Mass through her prayer. At that moment, Clare had a vision that allowed her to see the Mass on the wall of her room as clearly as if she were physically there. Today, we have so many options for participating in worship even when we are ill. Here we broadcast all the services in the Blessed Angela Chapel across Felician Village so that anyone who cannot attend is able to see and hear. Our society makes it possible for people to listen to services on the radio. They can view videos and livestreams on the internet. They can even, like St. Clare, have the images of the Mass projected on the walls of their home. One of the things I love about that story is that Pope Pius XII in 1958, when television was new, proclaimed St. Clare as the patron saint of television, even though she lived more than 700 years before its advent. Advent. A time of preparation. May your efforts to prepare for the beautiful gift of Christ coming into our world be a blessing to you.

Written by Barb Spies, OFS,  
*Director of Mission Services and Pastoral Care*

## In Loving Remembrance November 2024

Agnes Arndt, *Gardens, Court, Villa*  
MaryAnn Meyer, *Gardens, Court*  
*St. Mary's*  
Joanne Eggers, *Court & Villa*

