



THE MANY FACES OF SAINT MARIANNE



Embracing the Franciscan Legacy: A Vision for the Saint Marianne Cope Museum

The 2022 Annual Report addressed many questions regarding the future of the museum, the future legacy of the Sisters of Saint Francis and how can we carry on the values of the Sisters into the future.

What is in store for the future of the museum?

What will we remember?

Can we honor the lives of the Sisters by sharing their stories and in doing so, give people strength during their challenges?

In 2023, we answered many of those questions.

We've increased our vision in looking at Marianne's story, not simply as an amazing and historical woman but as a role model of Franciscan values and a beautiful and poignant representation of the Sisters of St. Francis and the values that they put into action every day.

In deciphering what these values look like in today's world, we are taking the programs and workshops we've created and are turning them into a curriculum.

The courses included are relevant to every person who cares for others, professional or at-home. They take the Franciscan values and lay them out into a series of practices that allow people to better care for others while at the same time, caring for their own well-being while in service to others.

Students of our Communication, Connection and Compassion curriculum will walk away with the knowledge and experience to be truly present to and effective for those for whom they care.

They will learn compassionate empathy, the art of listening, the importance of whole mind, body, and spiritual healing, and being aware of communication challenges with people struggling with mental health issues, dementia, and brain trauma, or journeying through end of life. Practices in self-care and life-balance will assist caregivers in avoiding burnout and knowledge of new and currently available resources from our community can assist in difficult decision-making.

Students will discover practices to better communicate with co-workers and managers to improve working conditions and attitudes that may discourage teamwork. Learning to manage others through servant leadership practices, students will learn to be part of harmonious working environments and create empathetic and confident managers within their departments.

The importance of relationships with not only peers, families, and patients, but all living things on our earth will radiate through every course.

Our new questions for 2024 include:

Can we create a collective of advocates; experts at compassionate care for others either working in professional environments or caring for people in their homes? Can we be a part of carrying on the Franciscan legacy by supporting those in service to others?

Can this "collective" fill a need for our growing elderly population?

Can we ease the challenges of people with life-changing diagnoses by teaching students to walk with them, support them and bring peace to their lives?



Kristin Barrett-Anderson, Director



Our Mission

As devoted stewards of Saint Marianne Cope's life and legacy our mission is to collect, preserve, exhibit, interpret and share Saint Marianne's inspiring story as a Sister of St. Francis.

The museum is dedicated to the life and legacy of Saint Marianne. Through displays showcasing her stories and artifacts, audio-visual exhibits, and educational outreach, we are able to share her message of respect and compassion.

Our mission is to take the values of Marianne and her Sisters and apply them to the challenges we are facing in today's society. The Sisters have provided peace to individuals across time and across the nation. This care is provided equally no matter race, religion, economic means, personal choice, belief or nationality. The driving force behind these women of faith is dignity and respect for every person.

Our programs seek to unite people and connect all of us across boundaries created by fear; fear of change, fear developed by misunderstanding and fear of embarrassment.

We strive to teach practices that people can incorporate into their daily lives that can not only help to unite us but also ease stress, improve productivity and assist us in maintaining hope through our most difficult phases of life's journey.

Our Board



Danielle Cummings:
Chancellor,
Roman Catholic
Diocese of
Syracuse



Dolores Bush,
OSF
CNY Minister
and Past
Director at
Franciscan
Northside
Ministries



Allison Graff:
Integrative
Nutrition
Health Coach
Development
Coordinator,
Sisters of St.
Francis of the
Neumann
Communities



Rachelle Lando:
Program
coordinator,
Language
Services,
DE&I,
Wellness,
St. Joseph's
Health



Colette
Walter, OSF
Household
Coordinator
and Mission
Integration,
Francis House

Our Team



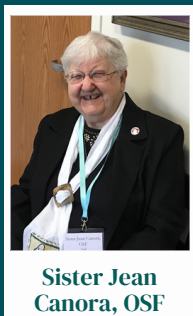
Kristin Barrett-Anderson

The director of the Saint Marianne Museum and creator of the Empathy in Action program. Kristin is passionate about her work and always ready to talk about the impact of the Sisters of St. Francis and how practicing respect and dignity for every person can change the world.



Victoria Cummings

The administrative support and core organizer for our team. Vicky is our go-to, do anything and everything (marketing, graphics, website, newsletter, database and proof-reader) along with a most compassionate voice and view in our mission.



Sister Jean Canora, OSF

Sister Jean is our grounding base. Through her life's commitment of service to others, her humble care for those that are alone in their challenges and her constant reminder that we are on the right path, we would follow her anywhere. She brings the joy and laughter to our offices whenever she is here.

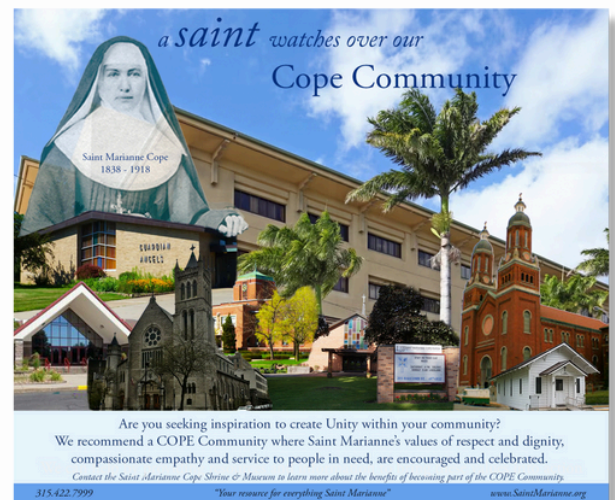


Brenda Field

Our merchandise coordinator, online order fulfillment master and a CPA that expertly manages our finances and accounting. Brenda is a quiet voice of reason and calm assurance. Our team is complete with her guidance and kindness and humility.

Expanding Horizons: Reaching Beyond Central New York in 2023

- In January, **EWTN Radio (The Miracle Hunter)** approached the shrine and museum and completed an interview with Kristin. The goal was to educate their audience on Marianne's life and work and to celebrate her Feast Day.
- **Catholic Prayer and Meditation**; a YouTube channel contacted the shrine and museum and we provided images and prayers of Saint Marianne to include in a guided prayer video on Saint Marianne.
- **Joseph Angsten; a seminarian** in the Diocese of Arlington visited the museum in January. He mentioned he would be taking a trip to Hawaii, and has a strong devotion to Mother Marianne; but also to Father Damien. Kristin was able to connect him with Stuart Ching, the Archivist for the Sacred Heart Fathers (Damien's community). While Joseph was in Hawaii in February, he was able to view relics of Father Damien. He shared this image with us; and was incredibly grateful to have made this connection.
- **Kevin Ahern, Catholic theologian and professor at Manhattan College** was visiting his in-laws in Syracuse, and made sure he could visit the museum during his time in Central New York. He is also the co-coordinator of the **Dorothy Day Guild** and is working on a exhibit on her life. Kristin provided helpful information regarding exhibits and the work needed for the cause for Beatification and Canonization.
- S. Colette Walter spoke at the opening presentation for **St. Joseph's Leadership meeting** in May. Leadership of St. Joseph's contacted me with their concerns about the emotional strain of the staff and the difficulty they are finding in bringing people back to mission. They asked if there might be a Sister available to speak at the opening of the next leadership team meeting and I was thrilled that S. Colette offered her time. It was so successful that other departments are booking her for presentations within the hospital.
- In March, we donated children's books to the **Saint Marianne Cope Soup Kitchen and Boutique at St. Joseph's/St. Patrick's parish in Utica**. Nancy Robert, Director of the boutique shared reading of Marianne during their scheduled story times.
- S. Jean Canora attended and presented at the Lady's of Columbus May luncheon.
- In August a group of **History teachers from the Syracuse City School District** and their department head spent a day at the museum for a workshop on incorporating Saint Marianne and the story into their curriculum. They left the museum inspired and agreed to act as advocates to share the story and its historical significance with other teachers in the district.
- Our Sunday Visitor news editor Gretchen Crowe and her family visited on August 13; she then wrote a piece "**The Saints Hawaii Needs Right Now**" published in August. [Link to Article.](#)
- "Hosts Carrie Lazarus and John Kucko take you on a tour of the hidden gems in New York State to plan a trip with the family or perhaps a weekend getaway." Three times a summer, NewsChannel 9 WSYR produces a tourism show called **Destination New York** that airs on Nexstar stations all over the state. They were preparing the final edition for 2023, and reached out to us to include the museum in their central new York tourist advocacy program.
- **COPE Community partners** – We have been reaching out to parishes and organizations who have recognized Marianne as a woman of history and offering resources to further share her story. These COPE Community Partners will receive updates regarding new publications, gift items, presentations, and archival achievements as they happen.



Franciscan Joy Events and Highlights in 2023

- In celebration of **Saint Marianne's Feast Day and Birthday on January 23**; we gave the staff, patients, and visitors at St. Joseph's the tools to appreciate one-another. 360 tulips, HOPE inspirational cards and Nurse's Prayer cards were delivered to locations around the hospital. People were asked to "gift" a tulip to someone they appreciate or as an offer of "hope" during challenging times. What better place to recognize those who serve than at St. Joseph's Hospital started by the Sisters of St. Francis and where our Saint worked and served?

Our **Tulips for Hope** celebration was incredibly well-received in 2022; and St. Joseph's was happy to work with us to bring back this celebration for 2023.

Also in celebration of Mother Marianne on January 23:
-Mass in Saint Marianne's honor in St. Joseph's Hospital Chapel.
-New this year! Hospital Volunteer Services presented the first baby born on January 23 a basket of goodies donated by the volunteers.
-The Saint Marianne Cope Museum visitors received a special birthday gift with their visit.



- **Bishop Grimes Junior/Senior High School** celebrates Catholic Schools Week (last week in January) with a yearly tradition of visiting the shrine and museum.
- As of February 20, the museum is again included in the **St. Joseph's new employee orientation**. Every other week, 25-35 new hires can visit the museum, learn about the hospital's rich history and also how the values of the Sisters continue in patient care today.
- **The Franciscan Academy program** teaches the history of Francis House and Saints Francis and Clare and how the Sisters follow their teachings. As part of the program, several Francis House staff members visited the museum to learn about the importance of relationship and servant leadership. They also heard about the Sister-values of compassionate care, dignity and respect for every person and how we can provide peace for individuals, their families and friends during their end-of-life journey. The program concluded with a museum visit to learn about how the Sisters have, through the years, lived their values in caring for people in Syracuse and Hawaii. Learning about how the Sisters cared for the exiled women and girls, living and dying with Hansen's disease, gives us the ultimate picture of providing mind, body and spiritual care. While dignity, respect and presence for every person are engrained in the Sisters' modeling, we often can overlook the importance of joy during this solemn time. Reading excerpts from the Sisters' journals gives us models of palliative care on Kalaupapa. It helps us to understand that a "full" life, especially towards its end, requires being present to all our emotions, the ones that bring tears and the ones that bring laughter.



A Garden of Memories

- **Annual Garden Blessing** at the Saint Marianne Cope Shrine and Museum held on May 30th: Each year the recipients and donors of bricks installed in the Maurillo Family Garden at the Saint Marianne Cope Shrine & Museum are honored. These special gatherings are filled with happy reflections and memories and a highlight this year was the Lawrence Family. Maryanne Lawrence not only shared Mother Marianne's name but also her quiet, caring and kind nature. She had a devoted faith to Saint Marianne and spent a lot of time praying at and touring the museum with her husband, Bill. Maryanne Lawrence lives on through her husband Bill and their wonderful children and grandchildren. We are blessed that the Lawrence family are a part of the beautiful garden. Sister Jean Canora and our friend Deacon William Dotterer led the service as guests gathered around Saint Marianne's life size bronze statue, her outstretched hands inviting visitors to join her in prayer.



- **The Maurillo Family honored their late cousin Paula Lorenza Ceretto** in June with a brick garden blessing and memorial service at the shrine and museum. A slideshow of images of her life was played while the family shared fond memories.



- **Celebration of Life for Laurel Kalinowski:** She was a dedicated volunteer for the museum when we were located back at the Court Street campus. Shortly after the Sisters moved out, she moved to Florida to be close to her daughters. After her passing, her daughters contacted us to arrange a visit while they held a celebration of life in Syracuse. Of course, we offered the use of the museum for the event and the family posted an open invitation for people to come here in celebration on July 9th. It was a beautiful day filled with heartfelt memories as family and friends came together.



Franciscan Joy Continued

- We hosted the congregational staff of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities for a gathering that included a **tour and Empathy in Action presentation.**
- **Murphys and Seminarian class reunion:** A group of classmates from decades ago come to Syracuse every year for a class reunion. Led by a doctor and administrator of the Poughkeepsie hospital along with his wife, they join us each year for a tour to learn about our Saint. They are a lively group who fill the museum with their presence from the moment they enter.
- On August 22, the Saint Marianne Cope Shrine & Museum welcomed **Daniel Koob and his wife Kim. Daniel is a great, great, nephew of our Mother Marianne!** He reached out to Sister Jean Canora to ask for prayers, and they stayed connected for months. He was finally able to make his way from Calhoun Tennessee to Syracuse New York and we spent the afternoon sharing stories and laughs. During his visit, he sponsored a memorial brick and mentioned he wants to come back to visit in 2024 when we have our annual garden blessing. Visits to the museum from people struggling with grief, anxiety or daily challenges have resulted in relief and newly discovered hope from talking with Sister Jean. Requests made via email and phone calls continue to lead to life-long relationships and sharing. These connections established through prayer and presence continue through letters and photographs. We look forward to continuing our friendship with Daniel and Kim Koob.
- In August we announced **the release of our new 8" Saint Marianne statue!** Statue depicts Franciscan Sister and Saint Marianne standing on the shores of Molokai, Hawaii where she served patients with Hansens disease (leprosy) for 35 years, from 1883 until her death in 1918. Marianne carries a book emblazoned with the Tau cross symbol as a tribute to St. Francis and her Franciscan devotion. With her left arm she holds a bundle of plumeria flowers, said to be her favorite in Hawaii. Saint Marianne is known for her leadership and nursing skills along with being an innovator in hospital hygiene and patients' rights. The Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities have given the staff at the Saint Marianne Cope Shrine & Museum Gift Shop the privilege of continuing Saint Marianne's legacy by spreading the word about her extraordinary life. Much of our unique merchandise was created by those Sisters who felt compelled to share the story of one of their own, Saint Marianne Cope. With our merchandise we have attempted to convey a dignified, accurate and inspiring message about Mother Marianne. We are pleased to offer the official sculpture as created and approved by our Sisters of St. Francis community.



Franciscan Joy Events and Highlights in 2023

- Studiosus, a **travel and tour company based out of Germany** included the shrine and museum as part of one of their travel itineraries. In September alone we welcomed two groups and a translator. These groups are always happy and proud to know that Mother Marianne is originally from Germany.
- On September 8th we **welcomed a lively group of Jesuit Novices**. Fr. Adam Rosinski, SJ, the Assistant Novice Director at the St. Andrew Hall Jesuit Novitiate in Syracuse plans a yearly visit to experience the shrine and museum.
- **St. Joseph's Health Hospital held a special dedication and blessing of a new permanent installation as an extension of the Saint Marianne Cope Museum** on October 18th. We celebrated the incredible legacy of Saint Marianne Cope, whose blessed work at the Hospital dates back to 1870. It was a moment to honor her, welcoming her presence into our hearts and the Hospital.



- Local author, illustrator, Jennifer Catney joined us for a sale and book signing of "Filling the Manger"



- On December 2nd we held our first annual **Christmas Open House**. The festivities commenced with the lighting of the Christmas tree, casting a soft, warm glow throughout our second gallery, providing an ideal setting for prayer and reflection. Christmas carols rang through the galleries, with Sister Jean and friends dancing and singing joyously to the music. The event also featured delectable treats, delightful stories, and laughter shared among all in attendance. Our gift shop was bustling with holiday shoppers, admiring the inspiring collection of gifts to share with their loved ones. The event was a shining tribute to our beloved Saint Marianne, and a beautiful beginning to this Advent season.



Overview in Numbers

2276 visitors from:

Within our community
12 states across the United States
Across the ocean; Germany

368 Prayer requests from:

6 different states from Virginia to Arizona

90 Presentations, Tours and events:

Inspirational stories
Historical discovery
Celebrations of life and gratitude
Hope for those who are struggling
Honoring those who have passed



In Closing

We are extremely grateful for all the people who have worked together to determine a sustainable direction and future for Saint Marianne. The Museum Future Committee asked and answered difficult questions about where we should go and what we should look like, all with the original mission and vision of the Sisters of St. Francis in mind. Our newly transitioned Board of Trustees is inspiring and I anticipate amazing ideas and challenges from them in the coming months.

We have processed, discerned and adapted to the needs of an ever-changing environment. A new look at our community and the world as it stands today, with all of its challenges and divisiveness gives us direction. An understanding of the role we can play in making this world a more inclusive and unified place is our guiding light.

