

Envisioning a Future Full of Hope with Each Other and with Our Neighbors

Inspired by Pope Francis, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden welcome his call to the entire Church and, in particular, to religious congregations to re-examine their foundations and mission of service to God's people.

Since our first six Sisters came together in France in 1650, our history reveals that the Sisters of St. Joseph always have committed themselves, their energies and their resources to loving and serving God and the "dear neighbor" without distinction in ways most needed and suitable to the times. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden have followed in this grace-filled lineage since our founding in Ebensburg, PA, in 1869.

Today, as a community of 163 Catholic Sisters, we are committed, as our foremothers were, to this same mission. We express this mission by responding to contemporary realities through a simple lifestyle, grounded in prayer and service to those most in need. As women vowed to poverty, chastity and obedience and living in community with one another, we hold all our resources in common and place them at the service of this mission. Through our vocation we are united to Jesus Christ in his love for God, for all people and for all creation.

Each Sister, regardless of condition or circumstance, contributes to the mission of Jesus and of our Congregation, pouring out her life for those deprived of bread and of love. Our Sisters minister in schools, parishes, prisons, hospitals, hospices and health care, and other settings where we encounter the most vulnerable of neighbors, especially children and older adults.



Wherever our Sisters live or minister, we receive all as gift and see every condition or circumstance as an occasion of grace. Wherever we are and in any manner that we are able, we seek to transform structures that promote violence, and bring about a more spiritually rich, compassionate and environmentally sustainable society that reflects the Christian belief that all creation lives and moves and has its being in God.

Loving and
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without
distinction

To amplify our efforts on behalf of the most vulnerable of God's people, we partner with other organizations to educate girls and certify teachers in Haiti, assist local victims of human trafficking, and advocate for care of creation, humane immigration laws, food security for all, and an end to the death penalty.

Our prayer is devoted to the needs of our world, our neighbors and benefactors, and an ever deepening union with God. We welcome women discerning a call to religious life to live, pray and minister with us as they listen for the call of God in their lives.

For the sake of the mission, we partner and collaborate with our 95 Associates and others who draw deep meaning, purpose and spiritual nourishment from their union with the Sisters and with others whose lives are shaped by this spiritual heritage.

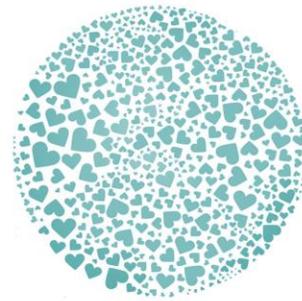
Our Motherhouse "neighborhood," located in Baden, PA, is a particular expression of our history, mission and hope for the future:

- The 94-acre, **intergenerational campus** serves as a vibrant home to Sisters, children and elders, addressing wholistic well-being, spiritual and educational needs of our neighbors close to home and throughout the Beaver Valley region.
- Our outdoors, with local flora and fauna, walking paths, a labyrinth, springs and tree trails, provide and preserve **contemplative space** for all who live, work or visit our neighborhood.
- **Earth Tones ministry** programs and projects such as Chickens for Change, Gardens for Good, Bees for Beauty, Green Teens, and other educational and agricultural initiatives involve Sisters, youth, and volunteers of all ages in providing a local response to urgent global needs such as hunger relief, food security and environmental sustainability.
- Our **apiary artisan business** creates quality hand and body care products while providing job training opportunities for those with barriers to employment.

In this house,
All must be friends,
All must be loved,
All must be held dear,
All must be helped.

- St. Teresa of Avila

- **Villa St. Joseph** is the facility of choice for in-patient and out-patient rehabilitation and evolving long-term care needs in the region. **Girls Hope** provides a safe, loving home and exceptional Catholic education for girls who otherwise would be unable to meet their full potential. **Gallitzin Commons** provides safe and affordable housing for eligible seniors. The former Mt. Gallitzin Academy now houses **Baden Academy Charter School**, which provides an arts-infused, classical education for children from across the region and all economic strata.
- **St. Joseph Spirituality Center** brings the Ignatian tradition of “finding God in all things” to the region through spiritual development and faith-formation opportunities for seekers of all ages and backgrounds. We collaborate with churches and other organizations to support and respond to their particular spiritual development needs.
- Our Sisters assist those who are seeking purpose and meaning in life, discerning a vocation, or coping with life transitions. We respond to the wholistic wellbeing **needs of our neighbors** through spiritual care, emotional support, grief support and pet therapy.
- We **welcome** friends, family members and neighbors of all kinds for vibrant Sunday Mass and other events and celebrations. We provide gathering space for groups of all sizes and purposes, including workshops/presentations, prayer, worship and meals.



Through the decades, we have relied on the generosity of benefactors and friends to help us move our mission and ministries forward. It is through their prayerful and financial support that we can bring God's message of love to our neighbors in need.

Won't you please join us in prayer and partnership in love and service as we respond to Pope Francis's call to continue to meet the most urgent needs of our dear neighbors without distinction **today, tomorrow** and into the **future?**