



CALIFORNIA
SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR
hearts wide as the world: together making a difference



Greetings!

I'm pleased to send you the latest news from the SND community in California and beyond. Our updates this time include stories of loss and hope, sadness and inspiration..

Thank you for your support and encouragement for the Sisters. You are always in their prayers.

Monica

Sisters mourn Orlando victims in their communities

The terrible shooting in Orlando in June had a direct impact on communities near Orlando where Sisters serve..

Sr. Ann Kendricks, SND, wrote a letter to all the Sisters acknowledging their concern and support in the aftermath of the massacre. She shared that a **Notre Dame Mission Volunteer was able to escape, and that a young man they have known since birth was killed.** Hundreds of people attended his funeral.

"We honor the dignity and sacredness of each person."

Hallmark Two of a Notre Dame Learning Community

"Now is the time for simply grief and accompaniment," she wrote, "but **there needs to be a time for true honest reflection and action on the deep cause of these increasing acts of massive gun violence in our culture, in our country. and now the hateful targeting of gay and Latino people.** Our political rhetoric and culture only feeds and fuels the fear and hatred."

[Read all of Sr. Ann's letter, and learn more about the Sisters commitment to each life and to diversity.](#)

Goodbye and Thank You, Chrissy Grul!

The leaders of our five schools met recently, and Christine Grul was celebrated for her service among us. She is retiring from Moreland Notre Dame, our elementary school in Watsonville.

She served there for 38 years, first as teacher and then for the last 14 years as principal. Her colleagues acknowledged her clear commitment to the Notre Dame mission, the wisdom she brought to our conversations together and the blessing of her salient wit and great sense of humor. She will be missed, but we are confident the spirit of ND will continue to be deeply alive in her!





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Pictured L to R: Maryann Osmond (Notre Dame High School, Belmont), Chrissy Grul, Mary Beth Riley (Notre Dame High School, San Jose), Judith Greig (Notre Dame de Namur University) and Sr. Kathryn Keenan (Notre Dame Elementary, Belmont).



A proud father with his graduating daughter

South Sudan: Losses and Victories

California **Sister Carolyn Buhs** continues her ministry as an educator in South Sudan.

In the most recent update from Sr. Carolyn and one of her community leaders, we learn of the **tragic death of two colleagues**, and **hear from a young woman who successfully graduated** from high school after overcoming a difficult home situation.

[Click here for the news](#)

Summertime, and the livin' was easy!

When not teaching or ministering in other ways, the Sisters had some fun! [Click here to see a video](#) of Sr. Noreen Cain describing the excitement when she and the other **Sisters serving in Hawaii were first allowed to swim at the beach!**



Sr. Marie Therese fishes, as Sr. Victoire Julie looks on.



Sisters play volleyball on the beach at Carmel, circa 1960




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