



Sisters of St. Joseph U.S. Federation Event 2016

A CONFERENCE FOR

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH, ASSOCIATES, AGRÉGÉES, ST. JOSEPH WORKERS, AND MINISTRY PARTNERS

<http://www.cssjfed.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/UsFederationOfTheSistersOfStJoseph>

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#CSSJevent2016

BACKGROUND

July 5, 2016

700 Sisters of Saint Joseph, Associates, Agrégées, and Ministry Partners Gather and Reflect on Their Global and Local Mission

WHO? The U.S. Federation of Sisters of St. Joseph was formed in 1966 to deepen relationships among member congregations within the United States, and to unify efforts to address spiritual, social and environmental issues, both locally and globally. The U.S. Federation is composed of more than 4,400 Sisters, 2,900 Associates and 26 Agrégées of 16 Congregations throughout the United States. The Congregations of St Joseph worldwide enjoy general consultative status at the United Nations through their Non-Governmental Organization [NGO].

WHAT? 700 CSSJ sisters, associates, agrégées, and ministry partners will meet to celebrate their **366th year** of reaching out to the 'dear neighbor' throughout the world, their **180th year** of serving in varied ministries among people across the United States and their **50th year** as The U.S. Federation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph whose member congregations claim a common origin in the foundation at LePuy, France in 1650. The Federation is committed to expanding their vision to embrace the global neighborhood while reaching out to local needs.

WHY? Purpose of CSSJ Federation Event 2016

- ▶ Aware of God's Love unfolding among and within us, we Sisters, Associates, Agrégées, St. Joseph Workers, and ministry partners of the Congregations of St. Joseph from around the world, will gather at Event 2016 to engage in prayer, conversation, and celebration
- ▶ To be immersed in our emerging story of being ONE.
- ▶ To embrace the neighborhoods of our time, asking for the wisdom and grace to create anew.
- ▶ To reflect on how together we can make a difference: one choice at a time, one voice at a time, and prayer all the time

HOW? KEYNOTE SPEAKERS DURING THIS EVENT:

Mary Johnson, SNDdeN, will offer the following presentations:

- ▶ **Who is the Dear Neighbor Today?** will describe the demographic shifts taking place in the Catholic Church in the U.S. Particular focus will be given to shifts along generational, ethnic and racial lines. The focus of this is the Church, even more, religious life in the US.
- ▶ **Boundaries and Bridges** will address shifting demographics as well as present challenges and opportunities for both boundary maintenance and bridge construction through dialogue. This presentation will raise questions about the cultures and structures needed to embrace the diversity of the present and future.

Pat Bergen, CSJ, will offer the following presentations:

- ▶ **Moving All-Ways in the Flow of Unioning Love** will consider how Love is the origin, the process, and the goal of universe history. Jesus revealed it and our first sisters, associates and agrégées proclaimed it with their lives. What if, in our time, we recognized our participation in the flow of unioning love as a movement of grace? Imagine the transformative possibilities, the influence, and the implications!
- ▶ **Riding the Wave of the Mission:** recognizes that "ALL IS ONE" is a wave rising in our time! Our charism has extraordinary gifts to contribute to this rising. How can we engage and partner with others in new and perhaps radically different ways in serving God and dear neighbor without distinction. Imagine the transformative wave of blessing for the world.

CSSJ Justice Action: Labor Trafficking and Human Rights for Farmworkers:

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers [CIW] and Professor Terry Coonan will speak about the Fair Food Program that ensures farmworkers will labor in safety and with respect.

- ▶ **CIW** is a worker-based human rights organization internationally recognized for its achievements in the fields of social responsibility, human trafficking, and gender-based violence at work. Since 1993 CIW's work has steadily grown over more than twenty years to encompass three broad and overlapping areas: the Fair Food Program, Anti-Slavery Campaign, and the Campaign for Fair Food.
- ▶ **Professor Coonan** is the founding Executive Director of the Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights.

WHEN? Tuesday, July 9-12, 2016

- ▶ Sisters of St. Joseph from around the globe gather every five years at a U.S. Federation Event to explore how Sisters of St. Joseph may continue to be and act as one. On Tuesday, July 12, 2016, during their upcoming Event, in Orlando, FL, participants will focus on awareness of and advocacy for labor trafficking and the exploitation of farmworkers. This initiative will conclude with a call to action urging the Wendy's restaurant chain to join the Fair Food Program launched by the Coalition of Immokalee Workers [CIW] in 2011. They will urge Wendy's to stop contributing to slavery and protect the fundamental rights of the people who work so hard to put food on our tables.
- ▶ Catholic teaching states, "When workers come from another country or district and contribute to the economic advancement of a nation or region by their labor, all discrimination as regards wages and working conditions must be carefully avoided."ⁱ

WHERE? Caribe Royal Hotel, Orlando, FL

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The Federation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph is a dynamic union of all the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the United States who claim a common origin in the foundation at LePuy, France in 1650. Today there are approximately 7,500 sisters, associates, and agrégées in the United States. World-wide there are over 11,000 Sisters of Saint Joseph in over 50 countries. Sisters of St. Joseph strive to embody a vision of all people united in one earth community of love, unity and reconciliation. They do this through collaborative programs, interaction, prayer and ministry. In our conflicted 21st century world, the Sisters of Saint Joseph seek to bring our traditions and vision to life in a way that will speak to our contemporary society and be a positive influence for change.
