



MERRY CHRISTMAS

from the Carmelite System.

A message from Trish Gathers: CEO, The Carmelite System

As we gather during this beautiful holiday season, a time filled with hope and reflection, I want to take a moment to recognize a significant milestone: the celebration of 95 years since the founding of the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm. This moment invites us to pause, express our gratitude, and honor the incredible legacy of these remarkable women who have dedicated their lives to serving others. The Christmas season is a time when we come together, embracing the spirit of peace on Earth and looking forward with renewed conviction for the year ahead. It is a time to celebrate not only our achievements but also the values that bind us together—compassion, equity, and a commitment to those who are often marginalized.

The Sisters have long stood as champions for the underserved, especially in times when social supports were lacking and resources were scarce. Their unwavering dedication to ensuring that the elderly and those in need receive the care they deserve has paved the way for us to continue this vital work. They carved a path that not only focuses on providing care but also on creating a supportive environment for all of us—making sure that our workplace is one where we are valued, compensated fairly, and given the tools to thrive. As employees of this organization, we are entrusted with a unique opportunity to shine our lights brightly in our community. Each of us brings

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our own gifts, and together, we create a collegial atmosphere filled with shared commitment and purpose. I am truly honored to represent this beautiful organization and to work alongside each of you in the mission to preserve and grow Catholic healthcare.

Let us not forget that our duty extends beyond our immediate work. There are parishes across the United States that lack access to Catholic healthcare, and it is our responsibility to nurture this vital presence. We are not just sustaining hope; we are embodying it. Hope is not a passive state; it is an action verb. We are the hope, and it is our collective responsibility to ensure that we embrace creative solutions and work together to pave the way for future generations.

As we approach the new year, let us carry forward the lessons learned from the Sisters—lessons of resilience, compassion, and service. Let us be inspired to continue their legacy, ensuring that our work uplifts those we serve and brings light to their lives. Together, we can create a future that reflects the values we hold dear, one where everyone has access to the care they need.

Thank you for your dedication, your hard work, and your unwavering commitment to our mission. May this holiday season fill your hearts with joy, gratitude, and hope as we look forward to the next chapter of our journey together. Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year ahead.

“The closing of one year and the beginning of another always invites us to reflection.”

- Venerable Mother Angeline Teresa McCrory, O.Carm



Mission Corner

A message from Sister Patricia Margaret Rawdon.

Each year the Congregation chooses a different theme to honor Mother Angeline when we celebrate her Anniversary on January 21st. The Theme for 2025 is:

Venerable Mary Angeline Teresa – A Legacy of Kindness.

It is the kindness and compassion of Christ that we seek to emulate in our Ministry of caring for the Aged and Infirm. Mother Angeline was indeed a model of kindness for all those she encountered. That kindness is reflected in our Core Values of Hospitality, Shared Commitment, Compassion and Sanctity of Life.

Hospitality

Our staff strive to provide a welcoming, person-centered atmosphere where each resident is treated with genuine love, kindness and respect.

Shared Commitment

It is all of us working together that shapes the culture of our Ministry. Whether we are at the congregational, system, governing board, management, or staff level, we all share in our commitment to continue the legacy of kindness left to us by Mother Angeline. We are all part of something bigger than ourselves – we are part of the Carmelite family.

Compassion

Compassion is at the heart of all we do. We believe that each person is created in the image of God as an object of His personal love. We strive to bring hope, healing and comfort to all we encounter in our ministry. In the words of Mother Angeline, “be kinder than kindness itself.”

Sanctity of Life

We believe that all life is sacred at all stages, and we advocate especially on behalf of the elderly. Our values and guiding principles are based on the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services, and the tenets of Catholic Social teaching. We provide Pastoral Care and Palliative care to bring comfort to our residents, recognizing that sickness, suffering and death are potential occasions for experiencing God.

As we celebrate the holidays and Mother Angeline’s Anniversary, may we always take a moment to be thankful for all the gifts God has given us. Thank you for the unique gifts each of you bring to our Mission and Ministry. Each of you are an important part of this *Legacy of Kindness*. May God bless you and all those you love!



Holiday Events

Here are some of the ways our homes are celebrating this joyful season.

Carmel Manor

Resident Christmas Party

Planned by our Activity Department, we celebrate Christmas and enjoy refreshments, gifts, and games.

Christmas Lunch with Residents and Families

Our culinary team offers a special lunch to residents and two of their family members on Christmas Day!

Carmel Terrace and St. Patrick's Manor

Employee Breakfast

St. Patrick's Manor holds an annual employee Christmas Breakfast in the Tara Lounge to celebrate the season.

Dinner and Decorations

Carmel Terrace serves a special Christmas dinner menu for residents and puts up their signature Christmas tree!

D'Youville Life and Wellness Community

Dewie the Elf on the Shelf

Our Elf on the Shelf travels all around campus, getting into mischief! Follow the elf's exploits on our Facebook.

Annual Tree Lighting

Our large gathering includes cocktails, mocktails, live entertainment, and prayer as we light our tree!

Kahl Home

Festival of Trees

Staff and family will be dressed in bright green and provide candy to children at the Annual Festival of Trees Parade!

Catholic Board Mass

We will be thanking the Catholic Service Board for their support with a Mass said by Bishop Dennis Walsh and dinner afterwards.

Lourdes Noreen McKeen Residence for Geriatric Care

Project Thanksgiving Food Drive

In order to celebrate the spirit of giving, we are taking part in a food drive for the Palm Beach Food Bank.

Community Christmas Party

Our Community Christmas party invites residents and employees to celebrate the joyful holiday season!

Mount Carmel Care Center

Family Christmas Luncheon

Mount Carmel Care Center will be hosting their Christmas luncheon for residents and family members.

Adopting a Family

We will be spreading the spirit and joy of the holiday season by adopting a family to give gifts to.

Mother Angeline McCrory Manor and the Villas

Women Shelter Drive

We are collecting items for a local women's shelter in order to help those in need during this holiday season.

First Responders Drop-off

We are dropping off all manner of holiday treats for local first responders to help spread some holiday cheer.

Ozanam Hall of Queens Nursing Home

Tree Lighting Ceremony

Ozanam will have a tree lighting ceremony for residents and staff to kickoff the new season.

Santa Visits

Santa will stop by each of the floors to leave presents for the residents.

St. Patrick's Residence Nursing and Rehabilitation

Benefactor and Volunteer Mass

We host a special Mass each holiday season to thank our donors and volunteers for their support.

Staff Christmas Party

Each year, we celebrate the staff by holding our annual Christmas party!



Download a digital copy of our Christmas newsletter