



BVM Harriet Holles (l.) engages Associate Joan Judge Mirabal in discussion during the BVM Senate.



Associate Dan Abben and Betty Voss, BVM share a moment during a BVM gathering.

FAQs about Associates

Do associates live only where there are BVMs?

Associates live all over the world, including in the United States, Ecuador and Germany. To build community through prayer, service and shared ministry, associates and friends are encouraged to attend BVM and associate gatherings. Relationships can also be nurtured through correspondence, email, video conference and telephone.

Do you have to be Catholic to be an associate?

An associate can be a member of any faith tradition who is willing to live the charism of Mary Frances Clarke with BVM sisters through prayer, mission and commitment to the core values.

Is there a financial commitment to association?

Associates do not have a financial responsibility to the BVM community. While some are donors, all associates are connected to BVM sisters and other associates by living BVM mission and ministry.

Won't YOU join us on the journey? Consider becoming a BVM Associate!

For more information, contact:

BVM Co-Associate Coordinators



Nancy McCarville
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Waterloo, Iowa 50701
nmccarville@bvmcong.org
847.626.8344



Grace Mendez
2710 Sunset Ave
Waukegan, IL 60087
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563.495.4241

WALK WITH US

There are many ways to walk with the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary:

COMMUNITY

Lou Anglin, BVM: langlin@bvmcong.org
Kathy Carr, BVM: kcarr@bvmcong.org

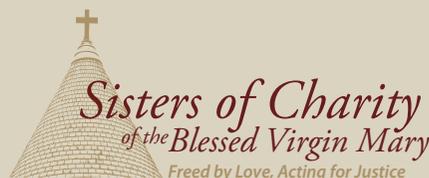
MINISTRY PARTNERS

Chris Chapin-Tilton
development@bvmcong.org

MISSION/VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

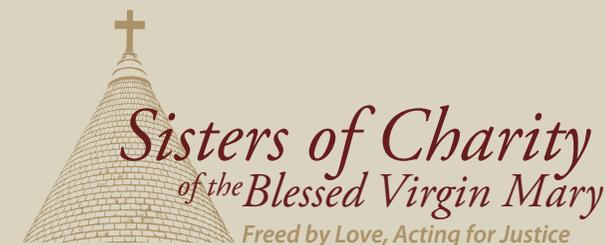
Tricia Lothschutz
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BVM Associates: Companions on the Journey



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WWW.BVMCONG.ORG



www.bvmcong.org



Associate Norm Freund spring cleans at a local shelter in Dubuque, Iowa, during a BVM service trip.

Associates walk hand-in-hand with BVMs in support of

Our Mission:

The Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary are a community of Catholic women called to live the mission of Jesus through our core values of

FREEDOM, EDUCATION, CHARITY & JUSTICE.

As lay people, associates maintain their own households, hold jobs, and continue to engage with their friends and family while participating in a mutual relationship with BVM sisters and associates. Our associates are women and men who are single, married or widowed.

Mutuality in Relationships

Sisters and associates form a community of believers who embrace the gospel vision as lived out through the charism of BVM foundress Mary Frances Clarke. This community provides a source of mutual support through prayer and service to others. Together, we reach out to alleviate the hardships that our brothers and sisters experience in the local and global community.

Associates offer sisters and one another support, friendship and the gospel vision. Sisters offer associates the opportunity for shared prayer, friendship and community, and mutual support in ministry. Both are enriched by opening themselves to relationships centered in the BVM charism.



BVMs, associates and friends participate in a summer retreat at Mount Carmel, Dubuque, Iowa.

How are associates integrated into the life and mission of the BVMs?

Associates participate in:

- Days of prayer and retreats.
- Service on committees.
- Justice projects.
- Ministries and volunteer services.
- Gatherings and social events.



BVM Elizabeth Avalos witnesses new Associate Barbara Roy of Overland Park, Kansas, sign the commitment book during her ceremony in the Motherhouse Chapel, Dubuque, Iowa.

How to become a BVM Associate:

- Contact the BVM Associate Coordinator, or talk with a BVM, associate or local BVM community.
- Participate in a 12-session discernment and orientation process with a companion and, if possible, other BVMs or associates.
- Attend cluster meetings, days of prayer, service projects, and social events when possible.
- After discernment and application, make a formal commitment as a BVM associate with annual renewal of promises on Dec. 8.

To learn more about BVM sisters, association or volunteer opportunities, visit our website: www.bvmcong.org



Or like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/bvmsisters

On the cover: New associates (l. to r.) Michele Miller, Kathy Weishaar, Nannie Allen and Eileen O'Shea celebrate their commitment ceremony in the Motherhouse Chapel, Dubuque, Iowa.