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**Did you know?** When you visit [maristsmsm.org](http://maristsmsm.org) on your **phone, tablet or computer**, you can

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### Wills – Memorial Gifts

If you are planning your bequests or memorial gifts you can help us to continue to bring the good news of God's love to those in need in many parts of the world.

Our official name and address for legal documents:

Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary  
349 Grove Street,  
Waltham, MA 02453

*May the blessings of Thanksgiving,*

*The longings of Advent*

*And the deep joy of Christmas*

*Enlighten the seasons of our hearts this year!*

# Marist Mission Today

Number 91

Marist Missionary Sisters

Fall 2022

*Dear Partners in Mission,*

I thank my God whenever I think of you, and I always pray with joy every time I pray for you all (Phils.1: 3-4).



Warm greetings to you all as we approach the festivities of Thanksgiving and the Christmas Season ahead. We praise and thank God for the many blessings we have received and continue to obtain from Him.

This year has been a very significant one for our Region of the Americas, as we celebrate 100 years of our presence and mission here. You will see in the next few pages some “snapshots” of our celebrations here in the USA and in Jamaica and Peru.

Thank you for your prayers and generous donations to our Region. Through your gifts we have been able to fulfill our mission. You really make a difference for us, and we are forever grateful.

United in prayer,  
Sr. Helen Muller, SMSM, Regional Leader

### Centennial Celebrations

*In the Spring issue of Marist Mission Today, we shared with you the story of our presence in the United States, beginning with Mary Decker, a young woman from Boston, who became “Sister Mary Rose of Lima”, and, with the help of the Marist Fathers, established our first community in the USA, 100 years ago, in 1922.*

*Gradually, our missionary presence was extended to other areas of “the Americas”: to Jamaica in 1940, and to Peru in 1960. At the same time, some Sisters from this Region continued to be missioned to other areas of the congregation – in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Pacific, according to the needs of mission and of the congregation.*

*This year has been one of joyful thanksgiving for all the blessings we have received over the past century. May we continue to find joy in our mission and to be faithful to the way of life and mission to which we are called. We are forever grateful for the support of your prayers and for your help.*

Below: SMSM Sisters from many different countries gathered at Sacred Heart Parish Church in Waltham, MA to celebrate the Centennial Year of SMSM presence and mission in the Americas, on September 12<sup>th</sup>.



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Our Sisters in Jamaica celebrated with a special Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Montego Bay on May 15, 2022



In Peru the Sisters had a Mass and celebration at San Ramon Parish in Chulucanas on July 24, 2022



Some former and current workers in our Regional Office joined in the celebration in Waltham: Jennifer Devane, Cy and Cheryl Doucet, Marie and Bill Wade.



## ENLARGED GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

Sr Georgeanne Marie, our congregational leader, and her Council, invited leaders from all four of our Regions: Africa-Europe, The Americas, Asia-Pacific and Oceania to meet in Waltham, MA, USA, from September 4<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> to help in the preparations for the next General Chapter of our congregation that will take place in 2023. For many Sisters here, as well, it was a great opportunity to meet “old friends” and to share our journeys as well as hopes for the future.

**Members of the EGC:** Front row: Srs. Shirley Foust, Lusia Meanandrau, Jennifer Laku, Claudette Razafindravelonoro, Pelenatete Peni. 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Srs. Theresa Waine, Prista Haga, Patricia Phillips, Helene Diouf, Helen Muller. 3<sup>rd</sup> row: Srs Colleen Williams, Michelle DeSilva, Kathleen Ruck, Malia Nive Kepu. Top row: Srs Cristina Giustozzi, Judith Moore, Athanasie Hakizuwambaza, Euphrazie Mukamana, Georgeanne Marie Donovan, Margaret Ryan.

*Those who have gone before us...*



Sister Mary Stephen, SMSM  
(Katherine Maloney)  
May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1927 – May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
From: Newton Center, MA, USA

Missioned in: Jamaica, Australia, Bougainville,  
Molokai, Alaska, Florida.

*For all that has been, “Thanks”*

*For all that will be, “Yes!”*

Dag Hammarskjöld