



year in review
**ANNUAL
REPORT**



**INSTITUTE OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
UNITED STATES REGION

September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024





Letter from Development

Dear Benefactors, Loretto Alumni, IBVM Friends and Community,

I am profoundly grateful for the continuing generosity of the Loretto Community. Yes, charitable gifts are essential to the continued support of both the Sisters in retirement and their ministries, but the relationships you have with the Sisters are the foundation of that kindness and giving movement. I am humbled to be just a small part of that connection and your story with IBVM.

As many of you are aware, from both *Walking Together* articles and word of mouth, this is the last fiscal year that I write an annual report from the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM). Next year, I will compile an annual report from the Congregation of Jesus (CJ). This year tugs at my heartstrings a bit, and I'm sure yours as well, but it's truly a profound moment in history for our Sisters that we are all honored to witness. This merger unites the global Mary Ward Family and founder, Mary Ward's, mission. In our upcoming spring issue of *Walking Together*, Sr. Helen Timothy of the US Region Leadership Team, has put together another article with more explanation surrounding the merger. As a part of the Loretto Community, you are on this journey with us, and we will continue to provide as much information as we can to be as transparent and informative as possible.

I encourage you to email or call us with any questions you might have, and we will do our best to resolve any confusion. While IBVM will change to CJ in late 2025, the name, "Loretto" (or "Loreto" for those with Irish roots) will always remain with our community. I have been assured that both "Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary" and "Loretto Sisters" still remain appropriate and valid for both general donations and legacy giving throughout the course of this full year. I will provide more clarity should any changes be made as we look onward towards 2026.

Regarding legacy giving, this last fiscal year highlights the long-term impact of planning ahead through bequests and charitable trusts for our community. While we mourn the loss of some very dear Loretto friends and benefactors, their generosity made a \$500,000 impact on the community and our ability to continue to provide our

retired Sisters with the care they need as more Sisters transition into continuum of care communities. Costs of assisted living continue to rise yearly and can sit around roughly \$64,000/person/year in Illinois not including additional service costs. With around 69% of our Sisters utilizing varying services, this makes "care for retired Sisters" a continued fundraising focus which many of you recognize and support whether through Mary Ward Day of Giving or designated donations.

Our ministries continue to evolve in response to our nation and community needs. The IBVM Sweepstakes and Ministry Lunch were specific efforts to foster financial support and creative connection. Mary Ward Center (MWC) continues to offer student-centered classes, clubs and special programs focused on student success. In light of recent immigration and migrant policies, MWC remains vigilant, adapting to these evolving circumstances while advocating for the dignity and rights of their vulnerable population. Similarly, Sr. Christa continues to support and navigate the hardships of those seeking safety and refuge in Juarez. Anawim Arts remains a creative outlet for artists and writers, both in-person and virtually, locally and internationally. Look for updates this next year as their international board broadens their horizons... locationally, artistically and spiritually.

Friend-raising, community outreach and reconnection with Loretto friends and alumni are important efforts that will be integrated into 2025-26. We will also be introducing a unique and meaningful new opportunity for you to support the Loretto path of faith and service. (We can't reveal this surprise just yet!)

This past year has been a true blessing, and I am excited to grow in faith, community and new opportunities with you throughout this next fiscal year.

In unity and mission, spirit and joy,



Megan Beutel

Megan Beutel

Director of Development

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT REVENUES*

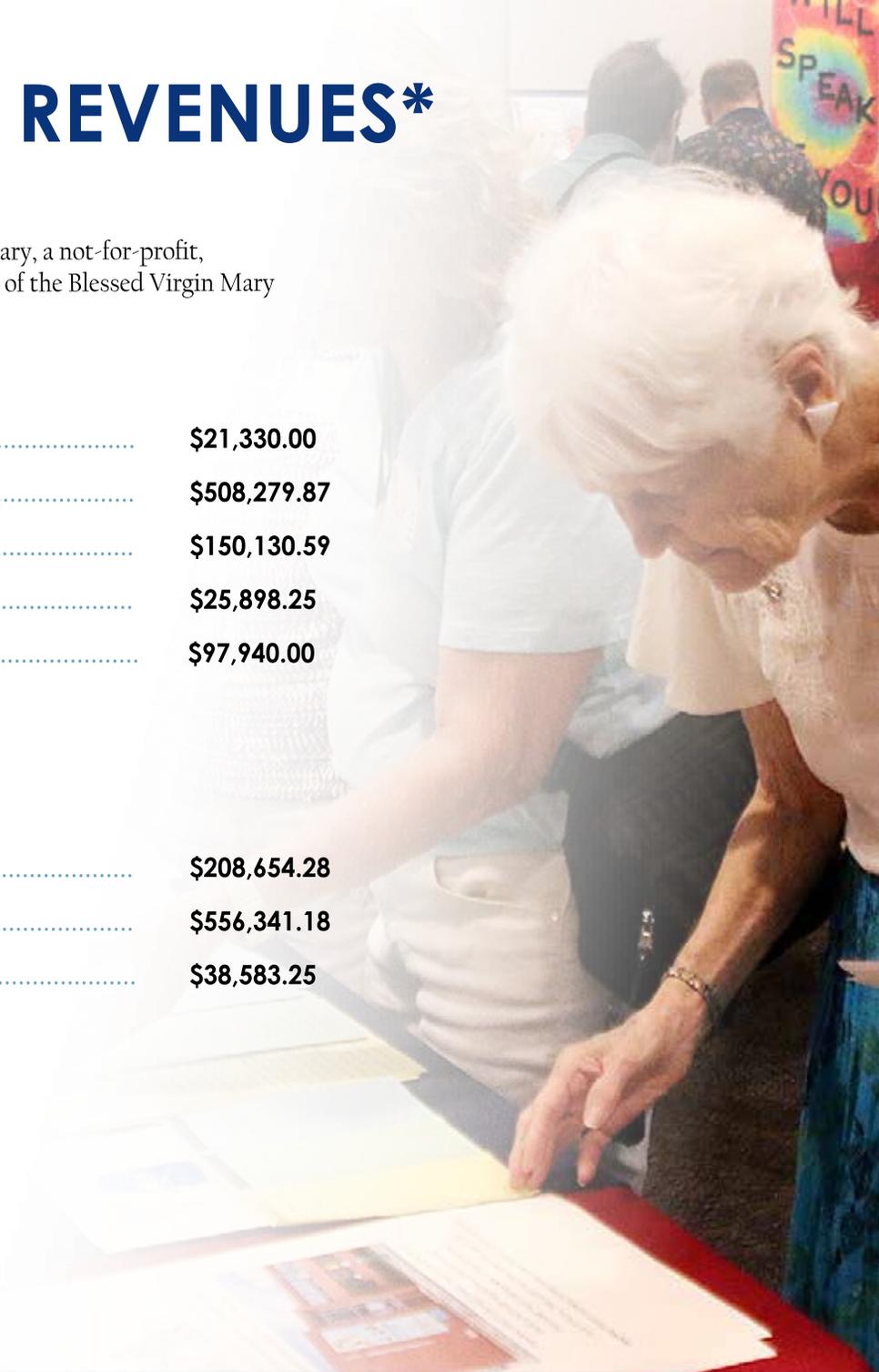
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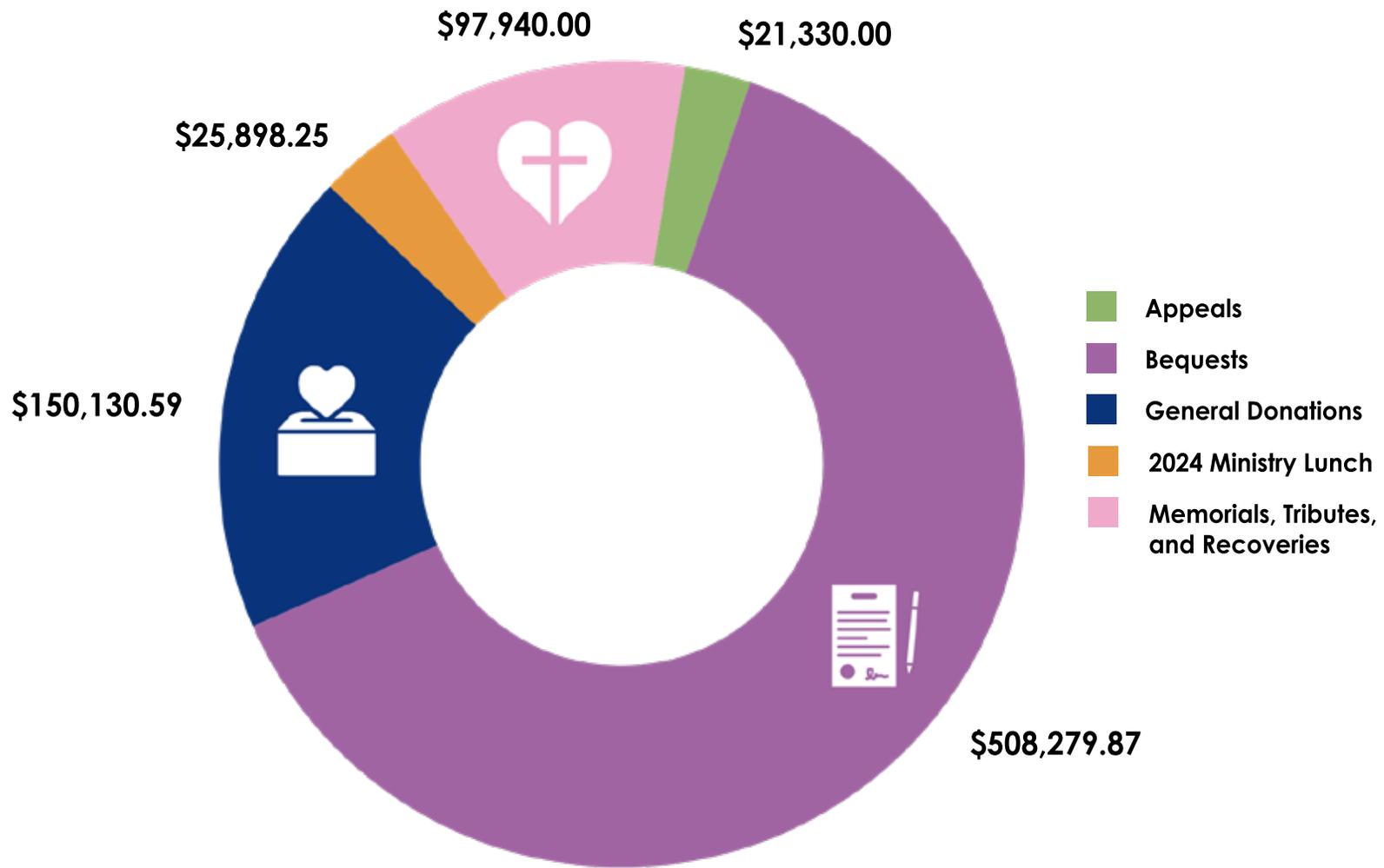
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■ Appeals	\$21,330.00
■ Bequests	\$508,279.87
■ General Donations	\$150,130.59
■ 2024 Ministry Lunch	\$25,898.25
■ Memorials, Tributes, and Recoveries	\$97,940.00
Total \$803,578.71	

■ Where the need is greatest	\$208,654.28
■ Care of the retired and infirm sisters	\$556,341.18
■ Ministries*	\$38,583.25
Total \$803,578.71	

*Unaudited figures





23-24
Giving
Breakdown



26.2%
Where the
need is
greatest



69%
Care of
the retired
& infirm sisters



4.8%
Ministries

IBVM HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

The contributions of those whose names appear on these pages have truly made our mission their own. During these times, your kindness, friendship and prayers have allowed us to continue our efforts to care for our Sisters and further the ministries of IBVM.



Our IBVM Circle of Mind and Heart Donors make a **BIG** impact year-round through recurring, *tax-deductible* monthly gifts. Interested in joining this group of generous benefactors? Visit us online at ibvm.us/Support-Us/Make-A-Gift/Monthly-Gift.

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passion for MINISTRY



“The heart of our ministry beats in rhythm with the needs of the world. We, the IBVM Sisters, are compelled by the love of Christ to reach out to those yearning for justice, peace, and care. Our passion is rooted in love.”

- Sr. Mary Carton, IBVM
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Sr. Helen Timothy and Sr. Jean Okroi at the 25th Anniversary Celebration of Mary Ward Center

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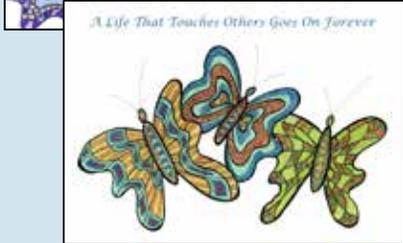
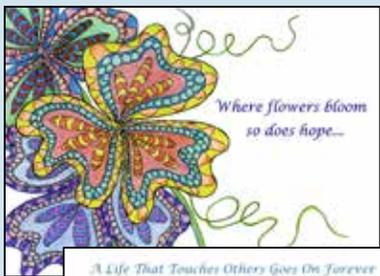
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with compassion & PRAYER

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prayer cards
25-26



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Sr. Christa stands with group that creates and sells custom embroidered bags in order to gain financial independence and start small businesses of their own.

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Pictured Clockwise from Left: Laura Schmidt, Sr. Betty Crotty, Sr. Brenda Eagan, Megan Beutel, Sr. Mary Carton and Sr. Arlene Ashack

the Loretto **LEGACY**

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The IBVM Annual Report
is published yearly by the
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toward accuracy in acknowledging
our donors and in the listing of
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any omissions or errors and ask
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